

THE DAMNED & THE DEAD!

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**WARREN
MAGAZINE**

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#103



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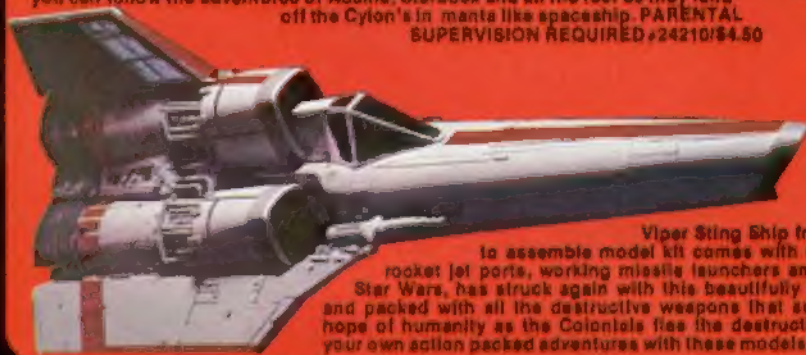


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EERIE®

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AUGUST 1979

4 DEAR COUSIN EERIE Readers demand, "Give The Rook his own magazine! He deserves it!" And a controversy rages: is "The Horizon Seekers" a highly original presentation of an End of the World scenario? Or is it so confusing it's fit only for Heavy Metal?

5 ROOK: TERROR OF SPACE Angered by lack of government appropriations, for space research, Restin Dane heads for the future. He plans to bring back evidence that the space program is valuable, but instead he finds himself involved in an interplanetary war!

21 THE COMIC BOOKS MAD, long a very profitable magazine, has always treated its staff munificently. Now MAD sales are down and corporate bureaucrats are trying to end all this. Brancatelli fears they are trying to destroy this bastion of publishing integrity!

23 THE OPEN SKY Arianne's father lived before the Great Haunting when men had wings; before the Changer took away the sky. But he'd been killed by the Bat King, White Blaze, and Arianne had inherited a world of darkness. Until Moonshadow came and brought her the light!

33 THE TRESPASSER Cope Mansion, though new, was built in the old style and looked as if it had stood for centuries. It was haunted by a force more deadly than demons... a terror that had already destroyed four human lives. Would Dr. Ward Cavanaugh's be the next?

41 CREDENTIALS As instructed, the Young Master faced the archer-priest, Do-Shin, at the Gate of Rashomon, awaiting his assignment from the Great Lord. But first he must prove his identity. Only the Great Lord knew if this proof would mean death for one of them!

49 THE HORIZON SEEKERS: In the distance, thunder boomed dismally. As the sound grew more intense, Allison stared, shocked, from the castle wall. She and Jesse might be the Horizon Seekers, but it looked as if the horizon was moving, seeking them!

Dear Cousin Eerie

I find the "Rook" series basically unsatisfying in its premise, as I do all time travel stories, since time travel is scientifically and logically impossible. But I must admit that **Bill DuBay** often comes up with neat twists, sometimes unconnected with the time travel element. Issue #101 is a case in point.

The idea of someone mimicking **H.G. Wells's** "War of the Worlds" to the extent of actually destroying a city is amusing, but the funniest (in a satisfying way) turn was having a seemingly demented, fascist army general bent on destruction, murder, and conquest actually be a guardian of freedom and decency in his own somewhat kooky (but relatively harmless) manner.

Concerning the Rook's adventure, in actual fact **Alois Schicklgruber** bore virtually no facial resemblance to his son, **Adolf Hitler**, and thus I can justly accuse you of unfairly trading upon his "popularity."

Part three of the "Horizon Seekers" also had a twist (the appearance of "Merlin") but I greeted it with less enthusiasm since it seems to take the plotline away from its main purpose, the resolution of the state of the world after the holocaust.

The first part of "Gotterdammerung" last issue presented an interesting (and rather horrifying) picture of the aftermath of an externally imposed holocaust and I thus held out great hope for its conclusion in this issue, expecting a continuation of its unique atmosphere. However, I was disappointed. It was just an outer space shoot-em-up with few redeeming features; even the father-son subplot fell flat.

The third post-holocaust story of the issue (hey, I thought theme issues were **CREEPY's** area) was the return of **Hunter II**. This was also disappointing. Not that it was a bad story, but I was expecting a landmark adventure and it somehow fell short. It's difficult to explain (and I guess that's why landmarks are difficult to write) but it lacked the "feel" of the previous **Hunter** epics.

THE MAD MAPLE
Toronto, Canada

I hate repeating myself, but **EERIE** is getting better. So good, I bought two copies of #101 (of course that could be 'cause I've got my name in it).

If you could keep the artists and writers in this issue together for a year or two, **EERIE** would be the top illustrated fiction magazine printed.

"Gotterdammerung" by **Budd Lewis** and **Isidro Mones** would make a good movie (hint! hint!), now if I only knew what the word meant.

Don't let **Henry Kujawa** insult **Leo Duranona** and **Cary Bates** work by calling "Horizon Seekers" "... something *Heavy Metal* magazine would print ...". It's better than that. The possibilities for this story look endless.

Joe Brancatelli was his usual self, and if you guys ever get rid of him I'll never forgive you.

I agree with all of **David Boyington's** suggestions. This magazine needs some color—anywhere. A two page letter page would be nice, but not if it means we lose a page of story or **Joe B's** column. **Warren** should have a contest each year for stories produced by non-pro's.

MIKE SOPP
Eerie, Pa.



"Gotterdammerung" is a German word. It means "Twilight of the Gods."

I just had to write about **EERIE** #100! Truthfully, it was only the second **EERIE** magazine I've ever bought and I purchased it solely to see **Jim Starlin's** "Darklon," which I had read in **EERIE** #76, a while back. Although the "Darklon" story was great, I find I am now very interested in the adventures of **The Rook**.

I am a long-time comics fan and collector, yet I agree with much of what **Joe Brancatelli** has to say. I don't know how much praise the man gets but consider this message as relayin' the info!

What I appreciate most in a magazine like **EERIE** is the continuing series and characters, as opposed to off-beat one shots!

PHIL LATTER
Nova Scotia, Canada

"WELL, ALL RIGHT!"

"Quarb and the War Ball" (**EERIE** #98) was just that! 'Course it was eight issues late (tempted to ask restitution for those tufts of hair I pulled out during the wait) and **Paul Daly** might find the shrinkage of his "War Ball" a bit much—but to hell with him! **Quarb** was the star and lived up to the part with his usual style.

He just let me know he is quite pleased with **DuBay's** masterpiece (and damned good thing since he's been itching to test his theories on induced synergistic earthquakes). He's puzzled as to how **Dube** learned he could molecular-teleport however, and he would like you to know that he wears a ring given him by **Helen** of (sigh) **Troy** herself, on his right hand!

Semi-seriously, folks, it was well worth the wait!

And so, as the father of the **Eternal Man** (nice!) I must say "Suutak!" or "Make mine **McQuarb's** Pipe Tobacco!"

GARY GOODMAN
Hardinsburg, Ky.

Bill DuBay turned in another mini-classic in issue #101. I like the way **Dube** is drawing plot similarities between the time trips and the adventures in the present. A richer, more intense story results. The danger that one man can cause if he wields too much power was brought home in not so subtle fashion this issue. By intertwining this theme within the two respective time periods, **Dube** gave the reader two different views of what could happen. Excellent.

Although he tended to engage in a bit of excess moralizing toward the end, the reader came away satisfied!

The other tales in the issue were good. There's a lot of potential in the "Horizon Seekers." If enough new twists are thrown in, it may not devolve into the standard "Last man on earth" cliché.

(Quick note, **Hunter Two** has returned, hopefully the last time).

"Gotterdammerung"—what a way to end that series!

Thanks for a great ish. And please tell **Starlin** and **Alcala** that they really complement each other nicely on the art! They gave us an exciting new look to "The Rook." Any possibility of **Pablo Marcos** turning in a "Rook" adventure in the near future?

MIKE BATES
Pontiac, Mich.

Ah so and chop chop! **Bruce Lee** lives again! The Rook epic "The Master of Ti Chi" in **EERIE** #100 was incompatible with **Restin Dane's** image. I've been a Rook fan from the start, but in this episode the Rook became too helpless. He behaved more like a lamb surrounded by a pack of mad dogs rather than a fearless time traveler.

ROLAND W. OWES
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Ever since the appearance of **CREEPY** #100 last year, I've been waiting for the time when **EERIE**, too, would reach the century mark. Now it has occurred. But, anticipating as I was a repeat of spectacular **CREEPY** #100, I was a little disappointed. Of the four stories, only two were of high quality.

Taking the duds first, "Gotterdammerung" was one of the most clichéd stories ever published in a **Warren** magazine. Not even poor old **Planet Comics** ever stooped so low. The dialogue contained so many pregnant pauses that they soon lost their dramatic effect. ("I've tried everything ... except this." "The repeated message monthly is a single word ... soon." "Just one word ... now.")

The other disappointment was "Duel." The earlier episodes of the **Darklon** series were, it's true, more interesting for the art than for the scripts. The finale descended into pure comicbookese (bio-disruptor duelling meter, for krisake!). And making the whole thing a dream, albeit a shared one, was a hackneyed cop-out.

Much better was the second episode of "The Horizon Seekers." It was refreshing to see a slightly different twist to the old breakdown-of-civilization idea. Most writers are too lazy to come up with anything other than plague, nuclear war, or alien invasion. As for the artwork ... well, it's just been incredible, that's all. I believe this series will be remembered as a classic.

The other success was the Rook story, "Master of Ti Chi." It showed that **Bill DuBay** can still write a good comic story when he wants to. Two stories, really: my one quibble is that they should have been more securely tied together. **Alfredo Alcala's** art was beautiful. (And I enjoyed the panel where **Dane** is reading **Alcala's** "Volgar.")

BRIAN CADEN
Cincinnati, Oh.

I've just finished reading **EERIE** #100 and I want you to know that I am more than satisfied.

"The Rook" (**Warren's** finest creation) is one of the things that keeps my friends and me buying your great magazine.

W.T. LANE
Jacksonville Beach, Fla.

Dear Cousin Eerie

C/O WARREN PUBLISHING
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IT BEGAN WITH **ANGER** OVER
BUREAUCRATIC INDECISION.

The

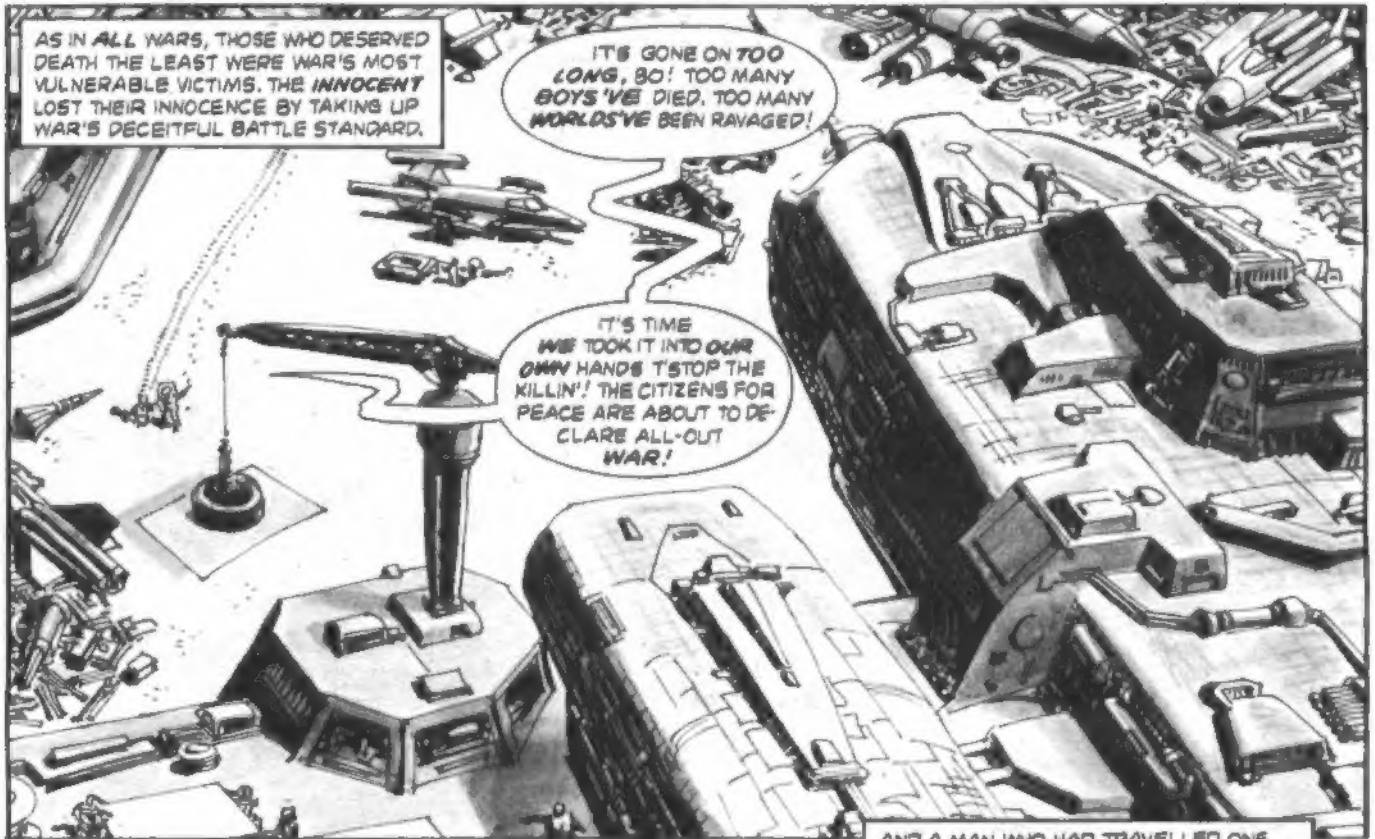
ROOK



WRITER: BILL DuBAY/ARTIST: LEE ELIAS



YET, THAT FUTURE WAS ANYTHING *BUT* IDYLIC. FOR SIX DECADES, *WAR* RAVAGED THE SOLAR SYSTEM. THE *REDS* VERSUS THE *BLUES*. COMMUNISM AGAINST CAPITALISM. THE PERPETUAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUEL HAD BEEN CARRIED TO THE STARS.



AS IN *ALL* WARS, THOSE WHO DESERVED DEATH THE LEAST WERE WAR'S MOST VULNERABLE VICTIMS. THE *INNOCENT* LOST THEIR INNOCENCE BY TAKING UP WAR'S DECEITFUL BATTLE STANDARD.

IT'S GONE ON TOO LONG, BO! TOO MANY BOYS'VE DIED. TOO MANY WORLDS'VE BEEN RAVAGED!

IT'S TIME WE TOOK IT INTO OUR OWN HANDS 'T STOP THE KILLIN'! THE CITIZENS FOR PEACE ARE ABOUT TO DECLARE ALL-OUT WAR!

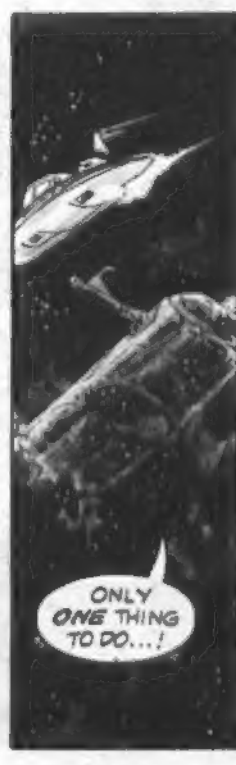
A LONE OLD MAN, IN A STARCRAFT ASSEMBLED FROM THE SCAVENGED PARTS OF A THOUSAND WAR-RAVAGED SHIPS, BEGAN HIS GUERRILLA-LIKE ASSAULT AGAINST THE AWESOME FORCES OF TWO ENDLESSLY-WARRING FACTIONS.

AND A MAN WHO HAD TRAVELLED ONE HUNDRED YEARS IN TIME TO FIND *TRANQUILITY*, WAS THE FIRST TO SEE AN OLD MAN'S BATTLE-SCARRED "MONUMENT TO PEACE!"

LORD!
WHO OR WHAT CHEWED UP THAT OLD STARSHIP?

MY GOD! IT... IT'S STILL *SMOLDERING*! WHATEVER HAS HAPPENED TO IT MUST'VE JUST HAPPENED. THERE MIGHT STILL BE *SURVIVORS* ABOARD!







WHERE...WHERE
DID THEY GO? THE
BLUE FIGHTERS...
THEY'VE **VANISHED!**

THEY
HAVEN'T. WE
DID! WE'RE OCCUPYING
THE SAME SPACE WE
DID A MOMENT AGO.
WE'VE JUST LEAPED
FORWARD **TWO
WEEKS IN TIME!**



**I-IN TIME!?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!**

THAT'S WHAT
I'D HOPED YOU'D SAY.
IF THOSE STARFIGHTERS
AREN'T EQUIPPED WITH
TIME-SPANNERS, WE
SHOULD BE **SAFE** HERE
UNTIL I CAN PATCH THIS
HULL BACK TOGETHER!



**TIME
TRAVEL!? TIME
SPANNERS!? WHAT
ARE YOU SAYING?
WHO...WHO ARE
YOU?**

I'M A FRIEND,
LADY...WHO SEEMS TO
HAVE BEEN CAUGHT, JUST
LIKE YOU, IN THE MIDDLE
OF SOME INSANE INTER-
GALACTIC WAR!



JUST
WHAT THE HELL
IS GOING ON OUT
THERE?

YOU...
YOU REALLY
DON'T KNOW,
DO YOU?



ALL I KNOW IS THAT I'VE JUST HAD MY SHIP
BLASTED OUT FROM UNDER ME! MY ENGINES ARE
TWISTED PILES OF **SCRAP**, MY TIME GENERATOR IS
SMOKING JUST FROM THE STRAIN OF **GETTING** US
HERE... AND IF I DON'T PATCH THESE HOLES IN THE
NEXT FEW HOURS, WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE
ENOUGH **OXYGEN** TO BLOW OUR NOSES.



IN SHORT,
LADY, WE'RE **DEAD
MEAT**... FLOATING AIM-
LESSLY ABOUT IN
OPEN SPACE!

NOOOOO!

BACK AT JOVIAN BLUE BASE, THE WHEREABOUT'S OF RESTIN DANE'S UNIDENTIFIED SHIP IS THE BLUE COMMANDER'S MOST PRESSING CONCERN.

I WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED OUT THERE, SOLDIER! HOW COULD YOU LET A LONE BOGEY ESCAPE YOUR ENTIRE SQUADRON?

IT'S AS I'VE REPORTED, SIR. IT...IT SIMPLY VANISHED!

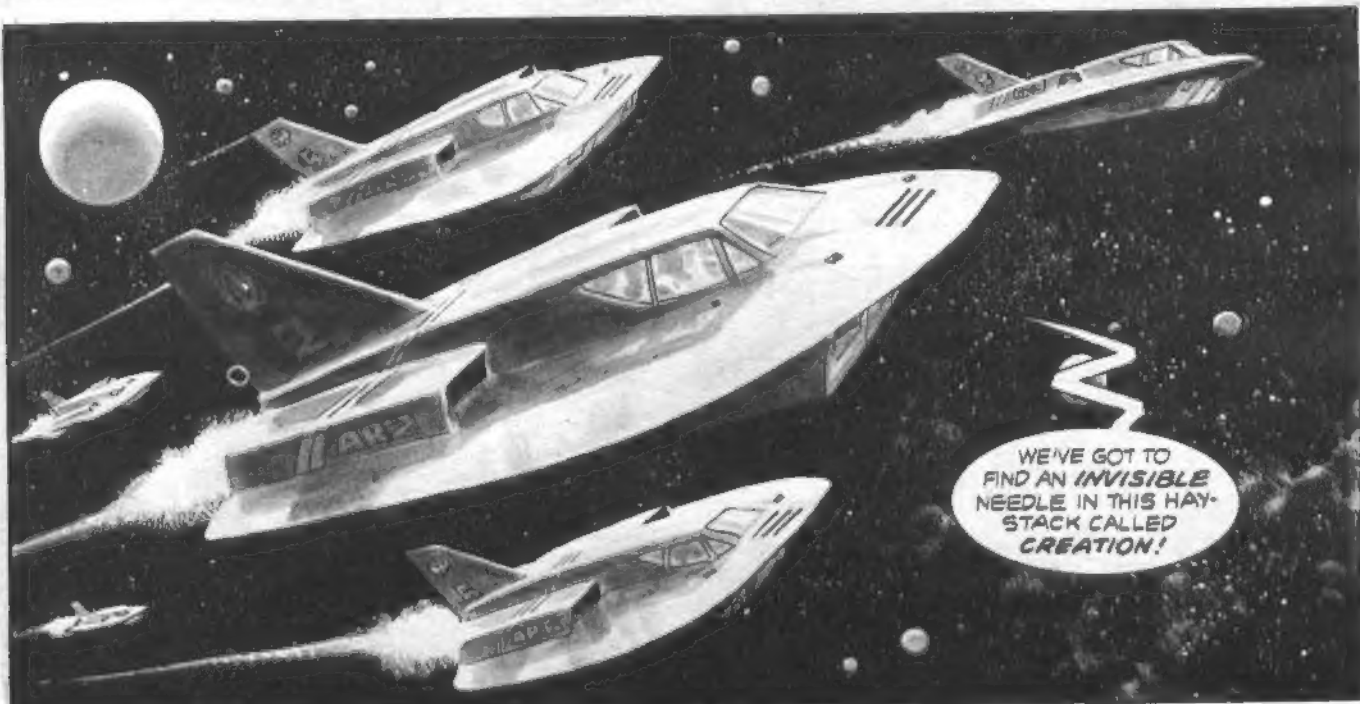
THERE'S NO WAY THAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED, MISTER...! UNLESS...UNLESS THE REDS HAVE COME UP WITH SOME NEW KIND OF CLOAKING DEVICE!

IF THAT'S WHAT THEY'VE GOT, THEY'LL BE ABLE TO RIP OUR FLEET APART WITHOUT US EVER EVEN SEEING THEM!

SOLDIER...! YOU GET YOUR TAIL BACK OUT THERE AND BRING THAT RED BOGEY TO ME! I WANT THAT CLOAKING WEAPON OF THEIRS!

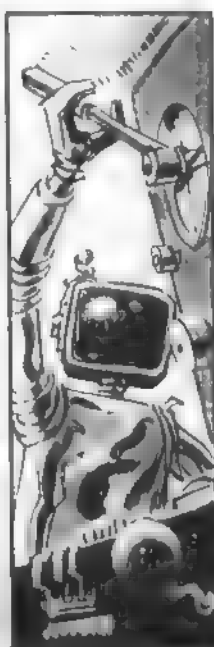
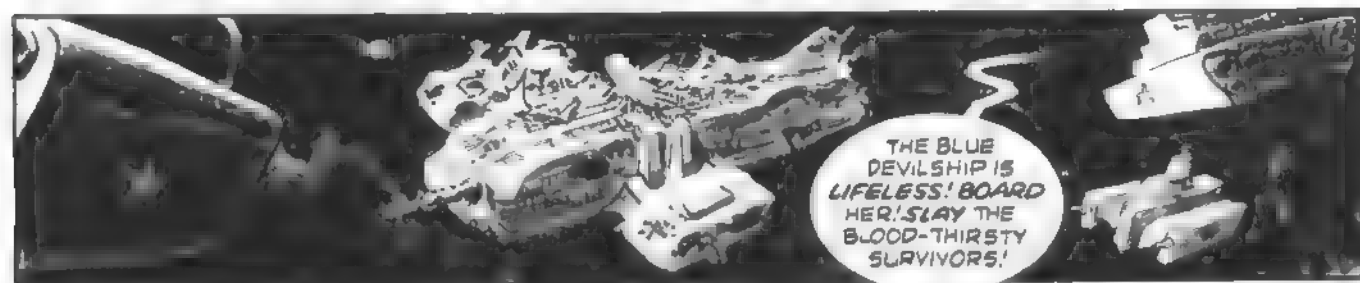
WITHOUT IT, WE'LL ALL BE SALUTING THE RED FLAG WITHIN A WEEK...IF WE LIVE THAT LONG!

YOU HEARD HIM, GUYS...!



WE'VE GOT TO FIND AN INVISIBLE NEEDLE IN THIS HAYSTACK CALLED CREATION!





THE OXYGEN PUMP HUMS AND SPUTTERS WITHIN RESTIN DANE'S BATTERED TIME / SPACE CRUISER. THE AIR IS THIN AND FOUL, THE TEMPERATURE RISING BY THE MINUTE.

THE MASTER OF TIME KNOWS THAT HIS TIME IS RAPIDLY RUNNING OUT. HE MUST DO SOMETHING QUICKLY IF HE OR THE GIRL HE SO RECENTLY SNATCHED FROM DEATH, IS TO SURVIVE.

CRYSSIE...! SHE'S BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH.



SHE'S TOLD ME OF THE WAR...OF HER PARENTS...! HOW THEY WERE KILLED IN A VIPER R.A.D. SHE WAS ON HER WAY TO MARS, TRYING TO FORGET THEIR PASSING WHEN HER SHIP WAS DESTROYED.

SHE'S SEEN SO MUCH DEATH, ENDURED SO MUCH HEARTACHE. BUT NOW, FILLED WITH HER OWN IMPENDING OBIVION, SHE'S WITHDRAWN...AS THOUGH SHE JUST DOESN'T CARE ANYMORE.



WELL I CARE! MAYBE I WAS TOO ROUGH ON HER BEFORE. I SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO BLUNT ABOUT OUR SITUATION. IT WAS CALLOUS, UNTHINKING OF ME.

I'VE GOT TO GET HELP FOR HER! AND THERE'S ONLY ONE SURE WAY!



RESTIN... WHAT...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'M ABOUT TO GET US RESCUED, CRYSSIE

Y-YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE ME!



HEY! NO NEED FOR TEARS! I NEED YOUR HELP IF WE EXPECT TO BE ON JUPITER IN TIME FOR BREAKFAST.





TAKE CARE OF THESE PHOTOGRAPHS UNTIL I CAN GET BACK, WILL YOU, LOVE? THEY'RE VERY IMPORTANT TO ME THEY CAN ALTER THE DESTINY OF HUMANKIND... ALTHOUGH I'M NOT SURE I WANT THEM TO AFTER ALL I'VE SEEN.

I I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

OH, RES...! BE CAREFUL...!

TRUST ME, CRYSSIE. I'M GOING TO PERFORM A LITTLE SURGERY ON MY SPACECRAFT AND SEND UP THE BIGGEST DAMNED RESCUE FLARE YOU'VE EVER SEEN.



LOCK YOURSELF IN THE FORWARD COMPARTMENT. THE OXY-PUMP SHOULD OUT UNTIL THE RESCUE SHIPS ARRIVE.

BUT, RESTIN... YOU...?



I'M GOING TO PLACE PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES AROUND THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF THE SHIP. WITH LUCK I'LL BE ABLE TO SPLIT THE FUSELAGE IN TWO AND JETTISON THE AFT END.



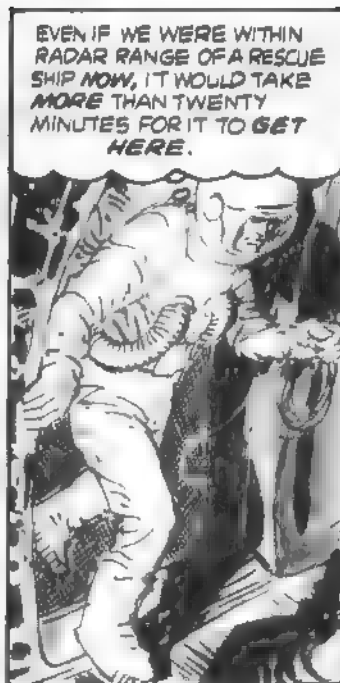
I'LL ALSO, VERY PROBABLY, GET MY FOOL SELF KILLED IN THE PROCESS, BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GET CRYSSIE TO SAFETY...!



OH, RESTIN... RESTIN... NOW THAT I'VE FOUND YOU... PLEASE DON'T LET ME LOSE YOU



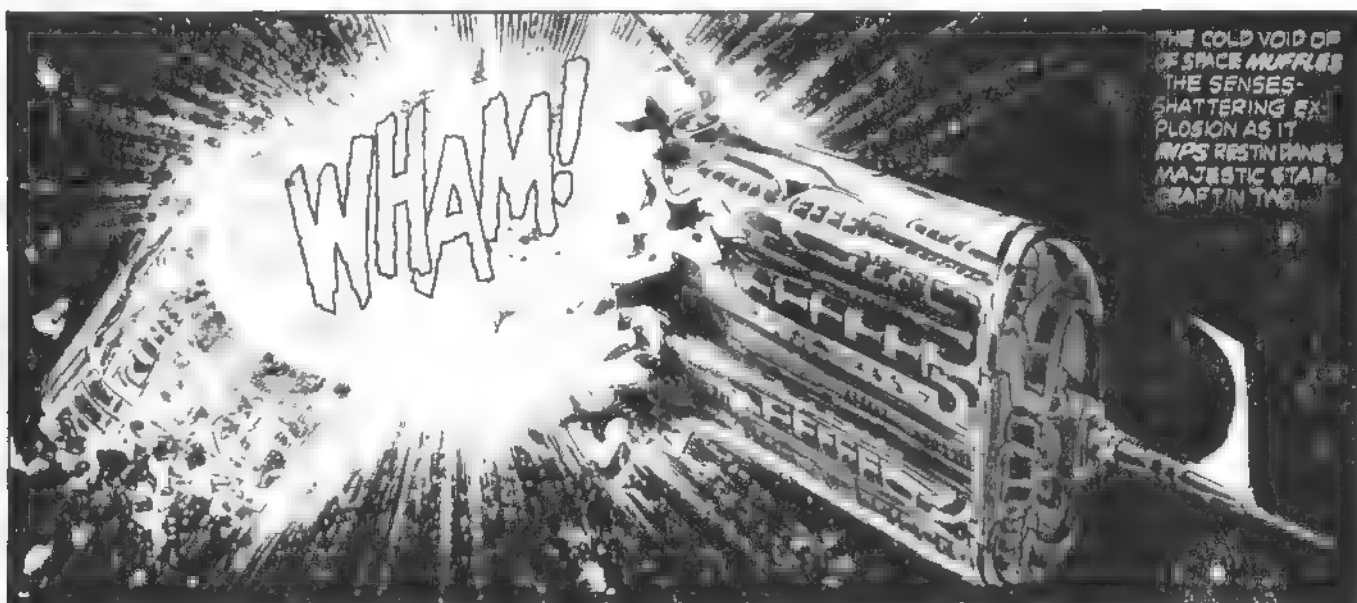
I'VE GOT
MAYBE TWENTY
MINUTES OF BREATH-
ABLE OXYGEN LEFT.



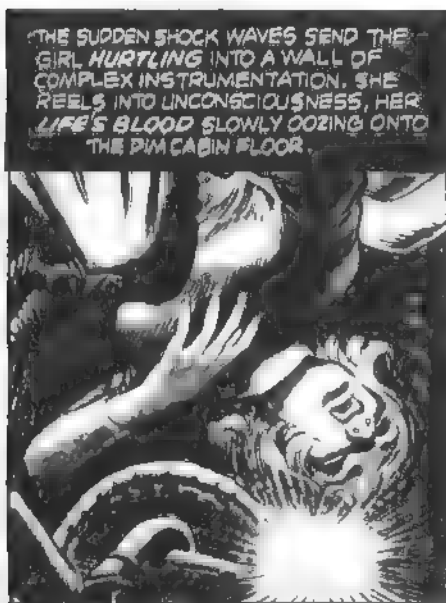
EVEN IF WE WERE WITHIN
RADAR RANGE OF A RESCUE
SHIP NOW, IT WOULD TAKE
MORE THAN TWENTY
MINUTES FOR IT TO GET
HERE.



THAT MAKES THIS LITTLE EXCUR-
SION THROUGH TIME A *BUST* FOR
ME. BUT JUST MAYBE I CAN
MAKE MY DEATH COUNT FOR *SOME-*
THING BY SAVING THAT FRIGHTENED
LITTLE GIRL.



THE COLD VOID OF
SPACE MUFFLES
THE SENSES-
SHATTERING EX-
PLOSION AS IT
KIPS RESTRAN'S
MAJESTIC STAR-
CRAFT INTO



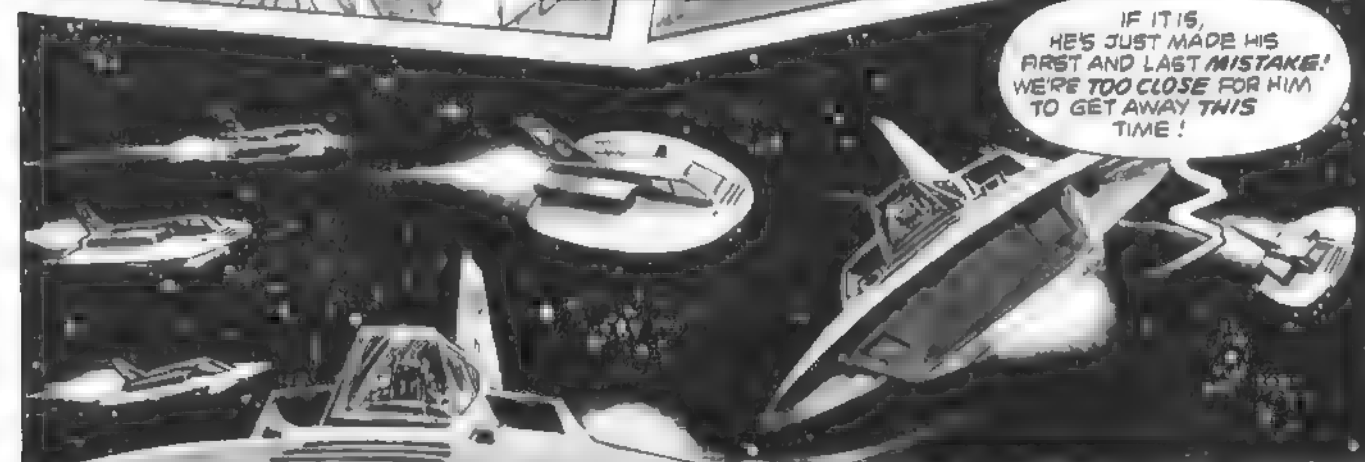
THE SUDDEN SHOCK WAVES SEND THE
GIRL *HURTLING* INTO A WALL OF
COMPLEX INSTRUMENTATION. SHE
REELS INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS, HER
LIFE'S BLOOD SLOWLY OOOZING ONTO
THE DIM CABIN FLOOR.



GOT TO WORK FAST.
CRYSSIE'S DRIFTING AWAY.
THE FARTHER SHE GOES,
THE LESS CHANCE THERE'LL
BE OF MY PLAN WORKING.



I'LL
JERRYRIG
THIS WEIGHT
GAGE TO
TRIGGER THE
REST OF THE
EXPLOSIVES
THE MOMENT
I STEP INTO
OPEN SPACE.

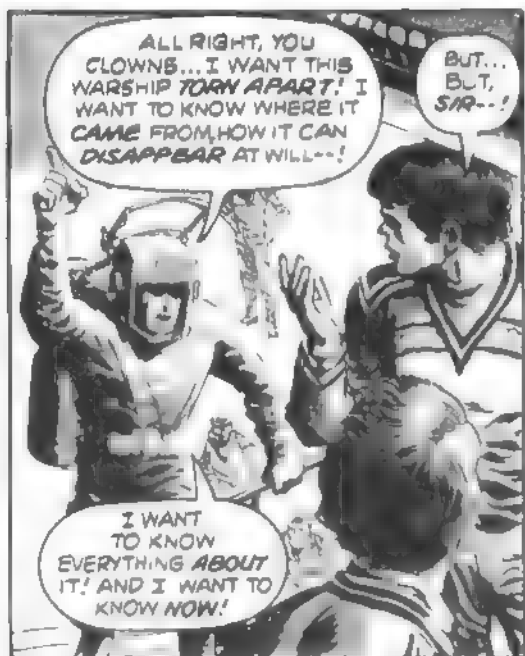






THEN WHO WAS PILOTING THAT CRAFT WHEN IT DOWNED OUR DESTROYER? SHE WAS THE ONLY PERSON ON BOARD!

YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PUZZLE THAT ONE OUT FOR YOURSELF, CAPTAIN. MY SPECIALTY IS PATCHING THE HOLES THIS LITTLE WAR OF YOURS KEEP PUTTING INTO PEOPLE.



ALL RIGHT, YOU CLOWNS... I WANT THIS WARSHIP TORN APART! I WANT TO KNOW WHERE IT CAME FROM, HOW IT CAN DISAPPEAR AT WILL--!

BUT... BUT, SIR--!

I WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT IT! AND I WANT TO KNOW NOW!

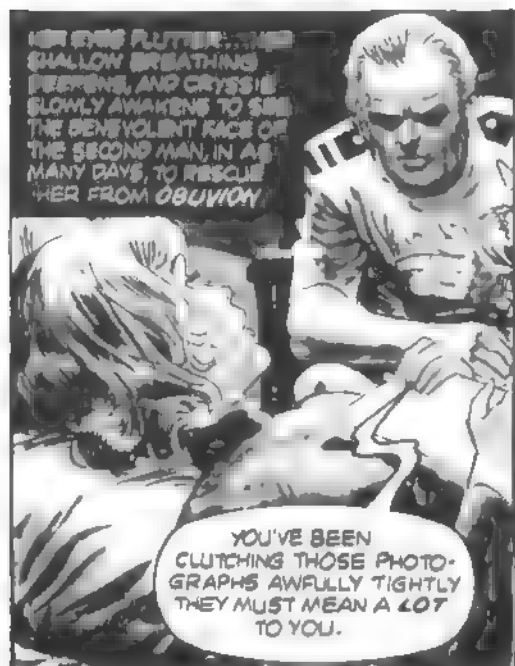


SIR! THIS ISN'T A WARSHIP! THERE'S NOT A WEAPON ON HER.

YOU WANT TO TALK IMPOSSIBLE? LOOK AT THIS! HER INSTRUMENTS INDICATE THAT SHE'S SOME SORT OF A... TIME MACHINE!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

WHAT?!



HER EYES FLUTTER... SHE SHALLOW BREATHING DEEPENS, AND CRYSSIE SLOWLY AWAKENS TO SEE THE BENEVOLENT FACE OF THE SECOND MAN, IN AS MANY DAYS, TO RESCUE HER FROM OBIVION.

YOU'VE BEEN CLUTCHING THOSE PHOTOGRAPHS AWFULLY TIGHTLY THEY MUST MEAN A LOT TO YOU.



RESTIN! IS HE--?

I'M SORRY, I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU MEAN.

RESTIN DANE! THE MAN WHO WAS WITH ME! HE... HE IS SAFE ISN'T HE?



THERE WAS NO ONE WITH YOU WHEN THEY FOUND YOU AND THAT... THAT WAS SEVERAL HOURS AGO.

NOOOO! NOOOO! RESTIN!

ANYONE LEFT OUT THERE WOULD HAVE DEPLETED HIS OXYGEN BY NOW I... I'M SORRY!

HE LIES STILL, UNMOVING, WITH A DEATH-LIKE SNORE MASKING HIS USUALLY-RUDY FEATURES.



AND THEN, MIRACULOUSLY, HE COUGHS, SPEWING FORTH THE STALE GASSES LODGED LIKE COBWEBS IN THE DARK CORNERS OF HIS LUNGS.

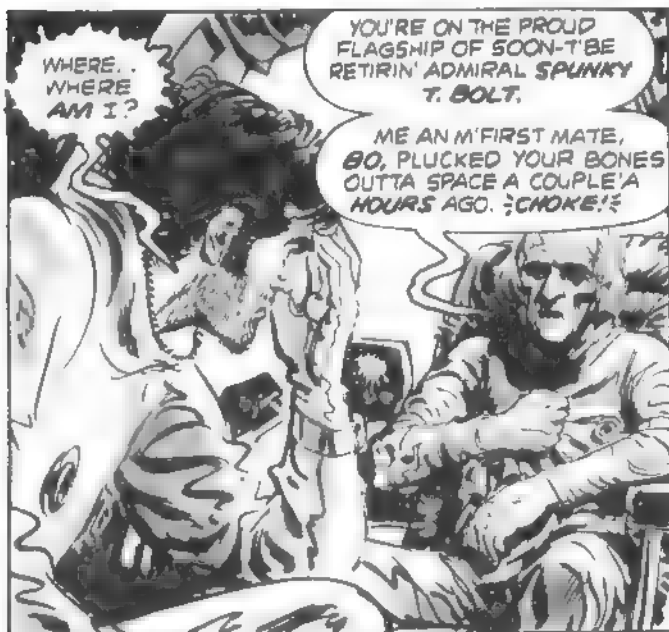


'BOUT TIME YOU WERE COMIN' ROUND, BOY!

WHERE... WHERE AM I?

YOU'RE ON THE PROUD FLAGSHIP OF SOON-T'BE RETIRIN' ADMIRAL SPUNKY T. BOLT.

ME AN M'FIRST MATE, BO, PLUCKED YOUR BONES OUTTA SPACE A COUPLE'A HOURS AGO. ;CHOKE!;



GOOD LORD! YOUR SHIP LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN TO HELL AND BACK, OLD MAN!

WE HAVE, BOY! WE HAVE! ;CHOKE!; THIS WHOLE GLORIOUS SYSTEM A'OURS'S BEEN A LIVIN' HELL SINCE THIS WAR STARTED ;CHOKE! COUGH!;

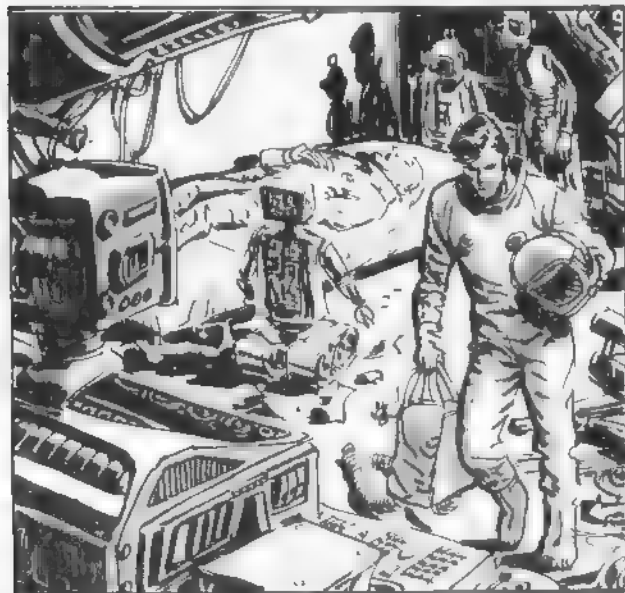


OLD MAN! YOU YOU'RE HURT!

HELL, BOY, I AIN'T HURT! ;CHOKE!; I'M DYIN'!

BUT IT DON'T MATTER NONE, I DONE WHAT I SET OUT TO DO...! RACKED ME UP M SHARE A COMMIE AND CAP'T'IST KILLS! ;COUGH CHOKE!;





THE COMIC BOOKS

by Joe Brancatelli

THE CORPORATE MAD

Quite simply, the history of the American comic-book industry begins with Max Gaines. In 1934, he engineered the production of *Famous Funnies*, the first commercial comic book ever published. Four years later, he convinced a reluctant and unenthusiastic Harry Donenfeld to publish Superman, the first great comic-book character, in *Action #1*. He and Donenfeld later founded the old All-American comics line, the company which first published Wonder Woman, The Flash, Green Lantern, The Atom and Hawkman. Before he died, Gaines founded still another comics house, Educational Comics (EC), publishers of an attractive, though failing, line of children's titles.

One person who has had a greater influence on comics than Max Gaines, however, is the old man's son, Bill. The younger Gaines took over EC after his father's death, renamed it *Entertaining Comics*, and published the "New Trend" horror titles. To this day, their financial and artistic levels of accomplishment have not been matched. Gaines the younger also became the unwitting founder of the Comics Code. He and Harvey Kurtzman founded *Mad*, the first truly adult comic book. After the irreplaceably brilliant Kurtzman departed, Gaines and Al Feldstein turned *Mad* into a children's humor title and it has become the richest, most famous, most profitable and most influential comic magazine ever published.

But beyond all of that, Bill Gaines stands alone as the model of the truly great, truly responsible comic-book publisher. *Mad* has always had an unstinting respect for its readers and its staff. *Mad* magazine has never ac-

cepted advertising. *Mad* magazine has never merchandised itself or licensed its name to money-hungry, gadget-crazed profiteers. Gaines could have prospered beyond anyone's wildest imagination if he had done any or all of those things, but he steadfastly refused.

Moreover, the *Mad* staffers have always been treated like human beings. Gaines, The Patriarch, made sure of that. In a field notorious for indescribably poor payment rates, the *Mad* workers have always been fairly compensated. They were paid reprint fees decades before the rest of the workers in the comic-book industry even thought to ask for them.

Most of all, though, Gaines never went corporate, opting instead to keep *Mad* lean and familial. Conglomerates and their cold, institutionalized bureaucracies turned him off. Even after he sold *Mad* to a new owner—and the new owner sold *Mad* again and the newest owners went conglomerate—Gaines kept running the operation his own way. No matter what the conglomerate wanted—even Warner Communications, *Mad*'s present parent firm—Gaines always considered his readers and his employees first. If it wasn't good for them, he wouldn't do it and to hell with Warner or any of the other bosses. If "they," the honchos, didn't like the way he ran the business he had sold them, well then "they" could fire him, Gaines insisted.

But none of the "theys" ever fired Gaines because "they" knew *Mad* was a goldmine. And Gaines knew how to keep the mine producing.

Suddenly, however, everything is beginning to change. For the first time since *Mad* magazine started almost three decades ago, circulation had dropped slightly. Seizing

the opportunity to meddle destructively in another business it bought, not created, Warner is getting tough with Bill Gaines. Warner, it is clear, after years of having things Gaines' way, is going to have things its way—the corporate way—no matter what or who goes.

The first hint came in February, when Parker Brothers, the game manufacturers, announced plans to market "The Mad Game" with approval from *Mad* magazine. *Mad*, Parker said gleefully, even agreed to allow the game to be advertised in the October issue. The game itself isn't all that bad, but it's not the kind of monstrously important item that merits smashing three decades worth of sound operating procedure.

The big bomb didn't fall until late April, however. Warner Bros., another Warner Communications subsidiary, announced it will make a \$6 million motion picture allegedly based on *Mad* magazine. Titled *Mad*, the movie will be produced by Fred Weintraub, a producer who freely admits he tried, and failed, to get the rights to do a *Mad* film eight years ago. Now, however, *Mad*'s precious no-merchandising policy will be junked to allow Warner's to make a movie aimed at capturing the same audience that went to see the *National Lampoon-Universal Pictures Animal House* film last year.

The Warner people have a quick, we really didn't sell-out-*Mad* retort, of course. *Mad* has the approval rights to the film's shooting script, they claim. But approving the shooting script means nothing if you don't have control over the final cut of the actual filmed version—and the Warner people know it.

There's more, of course, although none of it has been banded about publicly. Gaines The Patriarch is suddenly under intense pressure to go corporate with *Mad*'s staff and policies. Warner wants the legendary "Mad Trips" to stop immediately. Warner says Gaines shouldn't take his staff on vacations every year, a practice he has followed religiously since 1960, because it simply isn't in the corporate interest. No matter that *Mad* creators who could earn much more elsewhere stay with the magazine because of the trip.

Gaines' reprint agreement with artists, all verbal, must be contractualized, Warner says, for the good of the corporation. No matter that the informal atmosphere has kept *Mad* operating more efficiently than any other magazine of its size. Everything, Warner has been telling Gaines, has to be done the Warner way.

Gaines, of course, has only three decades of spectacular and unparalleled success—and his father's legacy—to defend his patriarchy.

Warner, on the other hand, has so much more going for it. It did the same corporate number on DC—in the early 1970s—and ran the world's leading comic-book producer into the ground in no time flat. And, lest we forget, Warner is the corporation.

AS HE WAS SAYING

My column on page 17 of *Eerie #102* quotes Bill Dubay as saying Lee Elias' 26-page Rook strip was "so nice, I don't want to make it a two-parter, so I'll hold it for a while." On pages five through 16 in the same issue of *Eerie*, however, is part one of the Elias job.

There's a moral there somewhere, folks, but damned if I know what it is.

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SPACE, POSTERS
FROM BEYOND
TIME, POSTERS
FROM BEYOND
MAN'S
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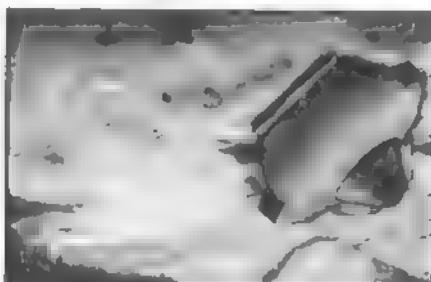
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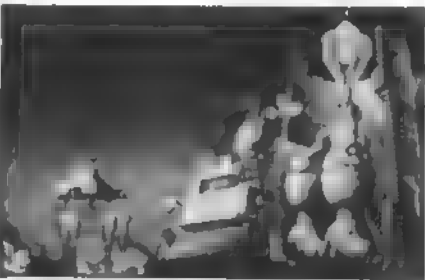
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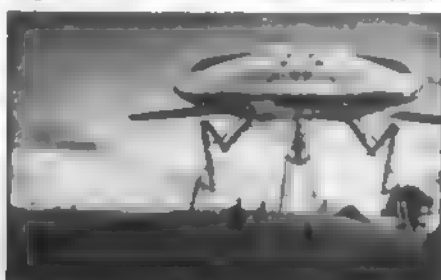
EARTH ENSLAVED The Earth is engirdled by a matrix of golden pentahedrons! An enslavement which brings our childhood to an end! Big 22"x35" All in full color! #29002/\$2.50



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BRAIN WAVE A beautiful visualization from Poul Anderson's book in which the I.Q. of every living thing on Earth rises greedily! Big 22"x35" All in full color! #29008/\$2.50

O the Open Sky



MY FATHER WAS A DREAMER. HE LONGED FOR THE DAYS BEFORE THE GREAT HAUNTING, A TIME WHEN HUMANITY HAD WINGS. BEFORE THE CHANGER DIVIDED US AND TOOK AWAY THE SKY.

THE CHANGER'S CURSE TURNED HALF THE HUMAN RACE TO BEASTS WHO SLEPT BY DAY IN THE HIGH GROTTO AND FLEW AT NIGHT. THE REST OF MANKIND WAS SHORN OF THEIR WINGS, AND LEFT TO STUMBLE THROUGH THE CAVERNS OF THE WORLD.

ARIANNE

MY FATHER OFTEN WENT TO THE GROTTO ALONE TO GAZE UPON THE OPEN SKY. AND THERE, ONE DAY, HE DROWESE. WHEN THE NIGHT CAME, THE BEASTS AWOKES, AND WHITE GLAZES, THEIR LEADER, TOOK MY FATHER'S LIFE.



MY MOTHER GRIEVED IN SILENCE. SHE NEVER DISCUSSED MY FATHER, OR THE THINGS HE CARED ABOUT. TOGETHER WE TENDED OUR GARDEN--

--AND NETTED THE BLIND, BRIGHT-GLOW-
FISH FOR OUR WATER LANTERNS--



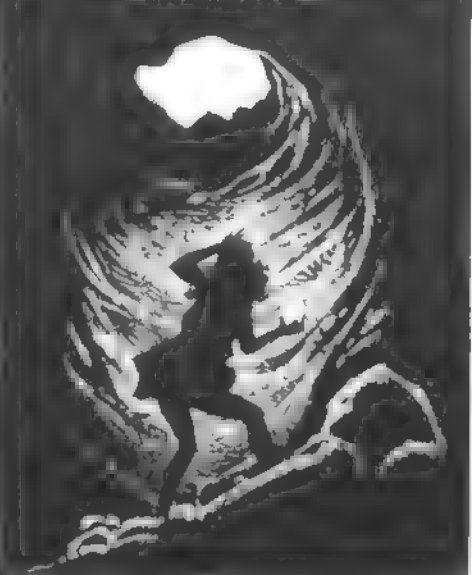
--AND HAMMERED SHOES FROM
LIZARDS' HIDES, AND STITCHED
SOFT RATSKINS INTO FINE
GARMENTS--



BUT SOMETIMES I SLIPPED
AWAY BY MYSELF--



--TO VISIT THE MEN GROUP, WHERE
MY FATHER WAS SLAIN, IN THE MIDST
OF HIS DREAMS--



I COULD NEVER QUITE SEE
WHITE GLAZES, BUT I KNEW
HE WAS THERE, WAITING TO
BE AWAKENED BY THE FALL
OF NIGHT--



I WOULD HAVE KILLED HIM, HAD HE
BEEN WITHIN MY REACH--



AND I SANG THE OLD SONGS
FROM BEFORE THE GREAT
HAUNTING AS I DREAMED
MY FATHER'S DREAMS.

I WISH I WERE
A TINY SPARROW
AND I HAD WINGS
AND I COULD FLY--

I'D FLY AWAY
BEYOND THESE CAVERNS
AND MAKE MY HOME
IN THE OPEN SKY--

YOU
THERE--
THE
SINGER.

CAN YOU
HEAR ME IN
THERE? MY NAME
IS MOONSHADOW.
I'D JUST LIKE A
WORD W TH YOU.

WHY ARE
YOU HIDING? I'M
NOT GOING TO HURT
YOU. ALL I WANT IS
SOME INFORMATION.

I DON'T
KNOW ANY-
THING! GO AWAY!
GO BACK WHERE
YOU CAME FROM!

YOUR SINGING
WAS BEAUTIFUL.
IT RANG THROUGH
THE MOUNTAINS,
AND I FOLLOWED
THE SOUND OF
IT.

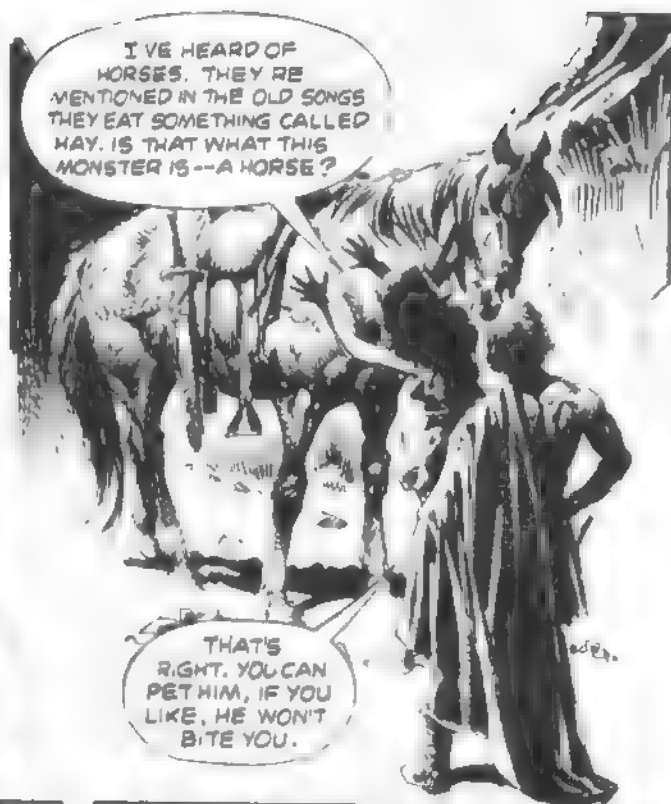
TRULY I
MEAN YOU NO
HARM. COME ON,
STAND UP. TELL ME
YOUR NAME.

ARIANNE--
I MEAN ARI.
MOMMA ALWAYS
CALLS ME--

MY WHAT?

YOUR
WINGS. YOU
CAME FROM THE
SKY. WHERE
ARE YOUR
WINGS?

WHERE
ARE YOUR
WINGS?



AND AGAINST MY WILL, I OPENED MY EYES. I KNEW THEN THAT EVERYTHING I HAD EVER LEARNED WAS FALSE, SWEEPED AWAY ON THE WINDS THAT BLEW ACROSS THE VALLEY BELOW.





I WATCHED HIM GO FORTH, AND THOUGHT, HE'S GOING TO DIE. HE'LL BE KILLED, TORN APART, LIKE MY FATHER--MY FATHER, THE DREAMER.



WHITE BLAZE WAS THE FIRST TO ATTACK. HE WAS CLUMSIER ON THE GROUND THAN HE EVER WAS IN FLIGHT.



THEY BEGAN TO CIRCLE EACH OTHER WARILY, BENEATH THE GREAT DARK CURVE OF THE OPEN SKY.



THEN VERY SUDDENLY, THEY BOTH MOVED.



AND WHITE BLAZE CONNECTED.



MY HEART TWISTED WITHIN ME. I GROPE FOR A STONE WITH WHICH TO DEFEND MYSELF.

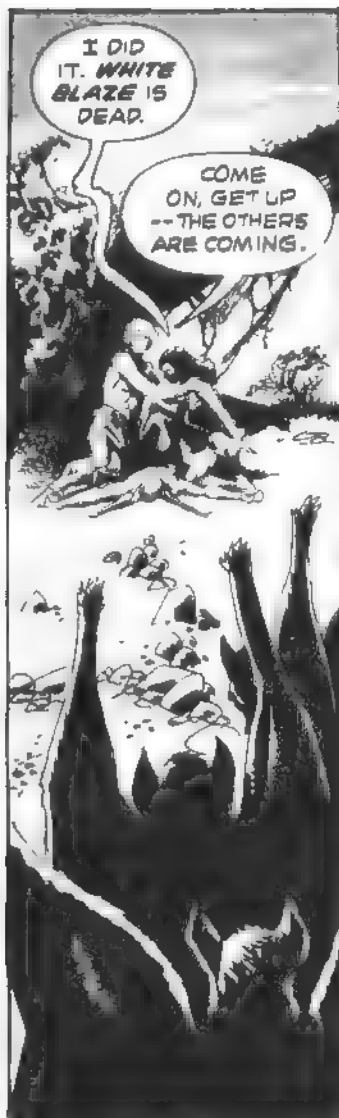


BUT IT WASN'T NECESSARY.



I RACED TOWARDS THEM, UNDER
THE OPEN SKY.





I DID IT. **WHITE BLAZE** IS DEAD.

COME ON, GET UP -- THE OTHERS ARE COMING.



YOU'D BETTER GIVE ME THAT **BLADE**.

WHAT?



THE **DAGGER**-- WE MAY NEED IT.

I KILLED **WHITE BLAZE**.



W-WHAT ARE THEY DOING WITH HIM?

THEY'RE BEARING HIM AWAY FROM THE FIELD OF COMBAT. I THINK WE'RE SAFE FROM THEM NOW.



ARE THEY TAKING HIM TO A PLACE IN THE SKY?

PERHAPS-- I DON'T KNOW. IT'S NOT IMPORTANT. THEY HAVE **HONOR**. THAT'S ENOUGH TO KNOW.



IT'S TIME FOR ME TO LEAVE. THE MAN WITH THE **JADE ARM** AWAITS ME, AND YOU CAN GO HOME AGAIN.

HOME TO THE CAVERNS? HOME TO THE ETERNAL DARKNESS? HOW CAN I GO BACK TO THAT?



MY MOTHER
WILL BE WONDERING
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME
SHE'LL BE WORRIED, BUT
HOW CAN I GO BACK TO
HER, NOW THAT I'VE
STOOD BENEATH THE
OPEN SKY?



FAREWELL,
ARIANNE.

NO--
TAKE ME WITH
YOU SHOW ME THE
REST OF THE
WORLD.



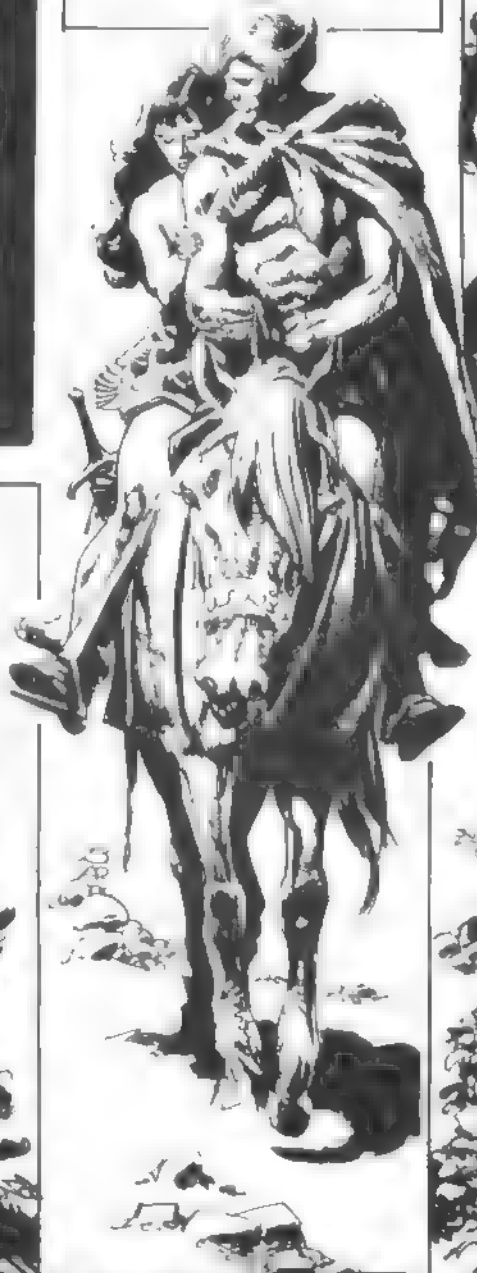
I'LL
SING FOR
YOU I'LL TEACH
YOU THE OLD
SONGS TAKE
ME WITH YOU.

I
SHOULD NEVER
HAVE BROUGHT
YOU OUT HERE.
NOW YOU'RE MY
RESPONSIBILITY

ALL
RIGHT SO BE
-- I'LL SHOW
YOU WHAT I
CAN.



BUT DON'T
BLAME ME IF IT'S
NOT TO YOUR
LIKING.

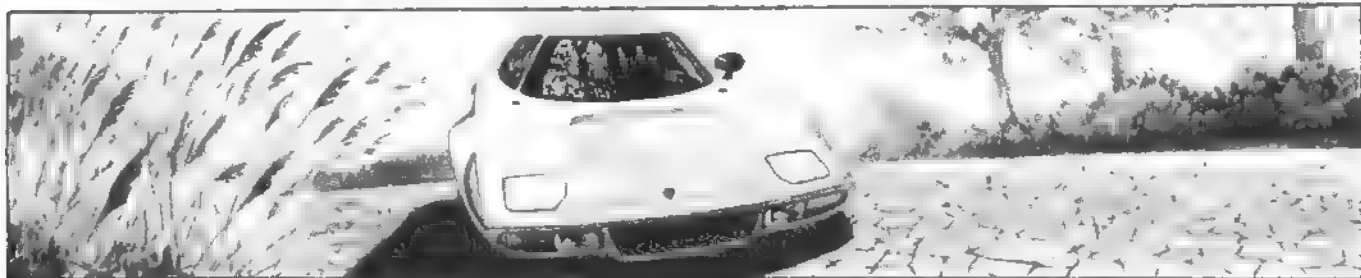


SO I LEFT THE PLACE OF
MY BIRTH, HAVING AVENGED
MY FATHER'S DEATH, BUT
TAKING WITH ME THE DEATH
OF HIS DREAMS, FOR I
COULD NOT DENY THE TRUTH.



THERE NEVER WAS A TIME WHEN MEN
HAD WINGS.

DEDICATED TO DAVE KRAFT, who supplied research material and who fought the good fight at the Green Kitchen.



BY 1998 I HAD BEEN A DOCTOR FOR THREE YEARS. I WAS IMMUNE TO THE SIGHT OF SPILLED INTESTINES AND SPLATTERED BLOOD--

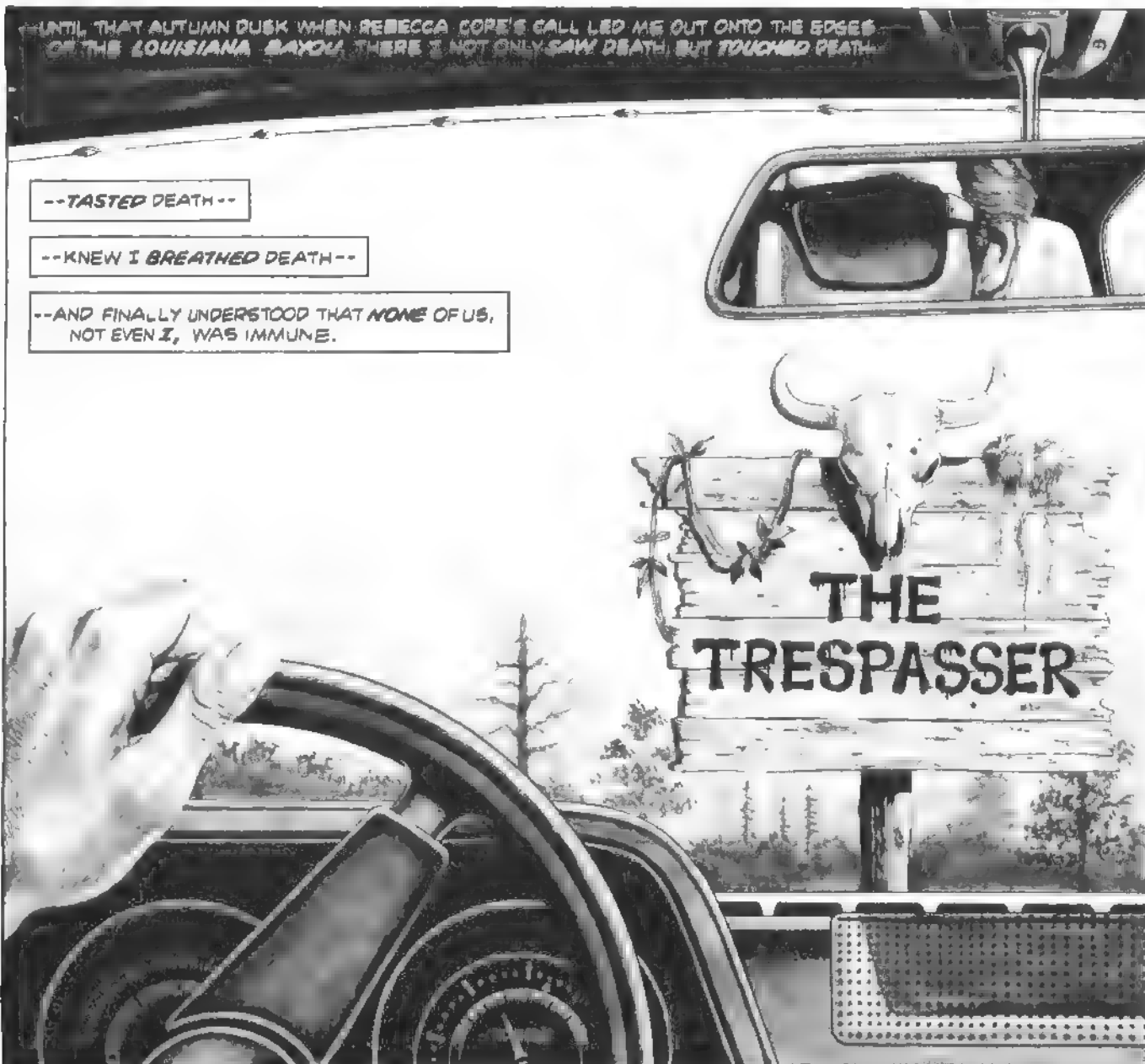


UNTIL THAT AUTUMN DUSK WHEN REBECCA CORE'S CALL LED ME OUT ONTO THE EDGES OF THE LOUISIANA SWAMP. THERE I NOT ONLY SAW DEATH, BUT TOUCHED DEATH--

--TASTED DEATH--

--KNEW I BREATHED DEATH--

--AND FINALLY UNDERSTOOD THAT *NONE* OF US, NOT EVEN I, WAS IMMUNE.



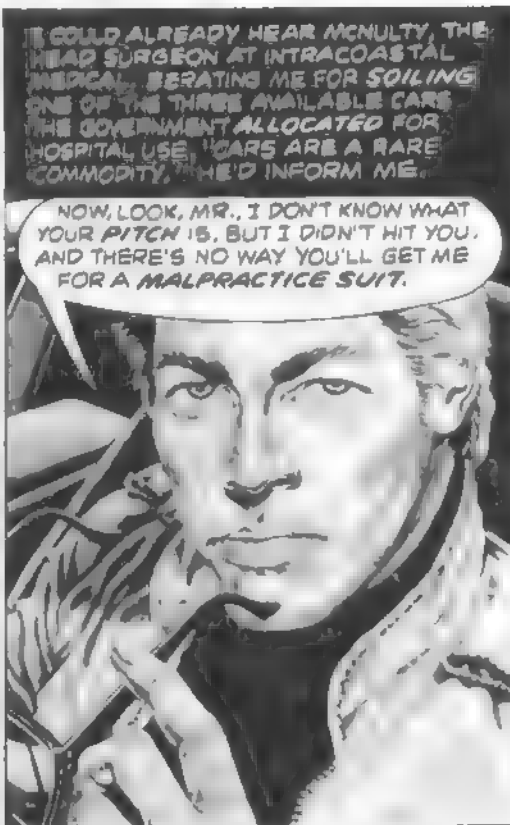
HE CAME STAGGERING OUT OF THE PRIMITIVE COASTAL MARSHES...GASPING AS IF HE WERE HAVING A CARDIAC ARREST...



...COVERED WITH SWAMP-SLIME, MUDDY SPRIG-TAIL GRASS AND SOMETHING MORE--



--BLOOD!



I LOOKED INTO HIS FACE, AND SAW MORE THAN FEAR THERE, SAW A HELLISH DESPAIR...

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND, THE WHOLE GOD-DAMNED COPE FAMILY... THEY'RE GOING TO KILL ME!



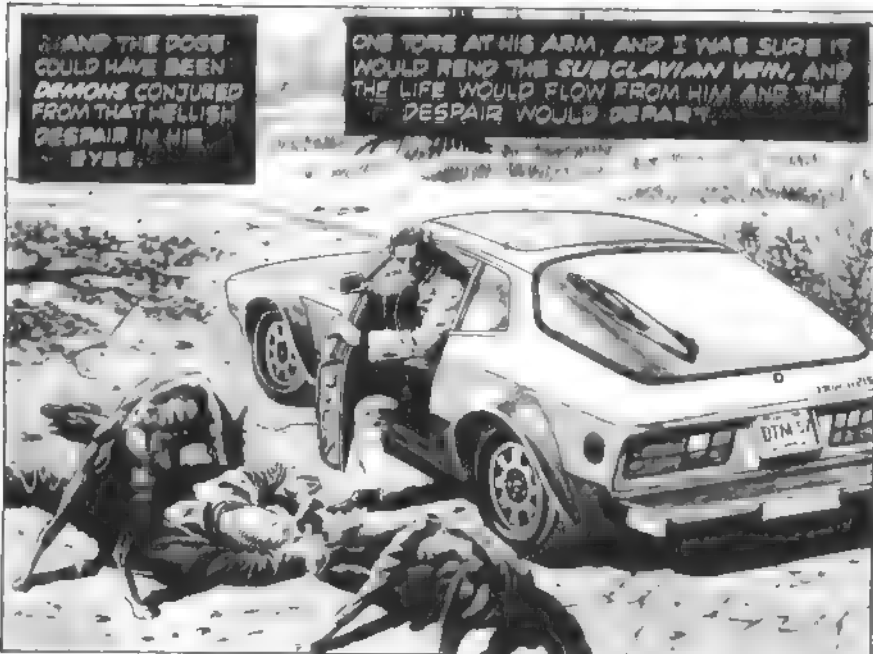
THEY'LL KILL ME TO STOP ME FROM SAVING THEM!



I HEARD THE DOGBEASTS OVER HIS VOICE, SNARLS OVER HIS FEAR...

AND THE DOGS COULD HAVE BEEN DEMONS CONJURED FROM THAT HELLISH DESPAIR IN HIS EYES.

ONE TORE AT HIS ARM, AND I WAS SURE IT WOULD REND THE SUBCLAVIAN VEIN, AND THE LIFE WOULD FLOW FROM HIM AND THE DESPAIR WOULD DEPART.



HOLD UP, BOY! YOU DON'T MAKE NO SUDDEN MOVES, IT'LL BE A MIGHT MORE HEALTHY FOR YA.

BUT THOSE DOGS ARE...



..HAVIN' A BIT O' SPORT, IS ALL. SEE, WE'RE THE SECURITY FORCE FOR THE COPE FAMILY, AND WE DO OUR JOB RIGHT WELL. REASON MR COPE TRUSTS US LIKE HE DOES.

BROTHER RUSH, YOU BETTER TELL THEM DOGS TA EASE OFFA KELSEY, ELSE THERE WON'T BE NUTHIN' LEFT BUT SOUP BONES.

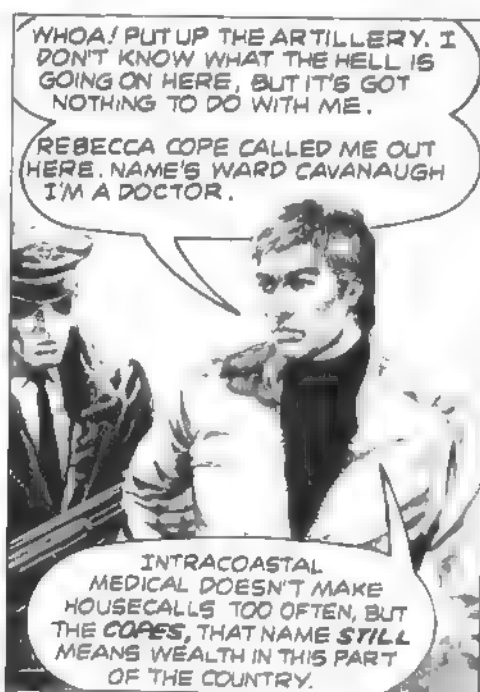
NOW YOU'D BETTER HAVE A GOOD REASON FOR BEIN' HERE, BOY, OR THEM DOGS'LL GETTA TASTE A' YOUR BUTT, TOO!



WHOA! PUT UP THE ARTILLERY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE, BUT IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.

REBECCA COPE CALLED ME OUT HERE. NAME'S WARD CAVANAUGH I'M A DOCTOR.

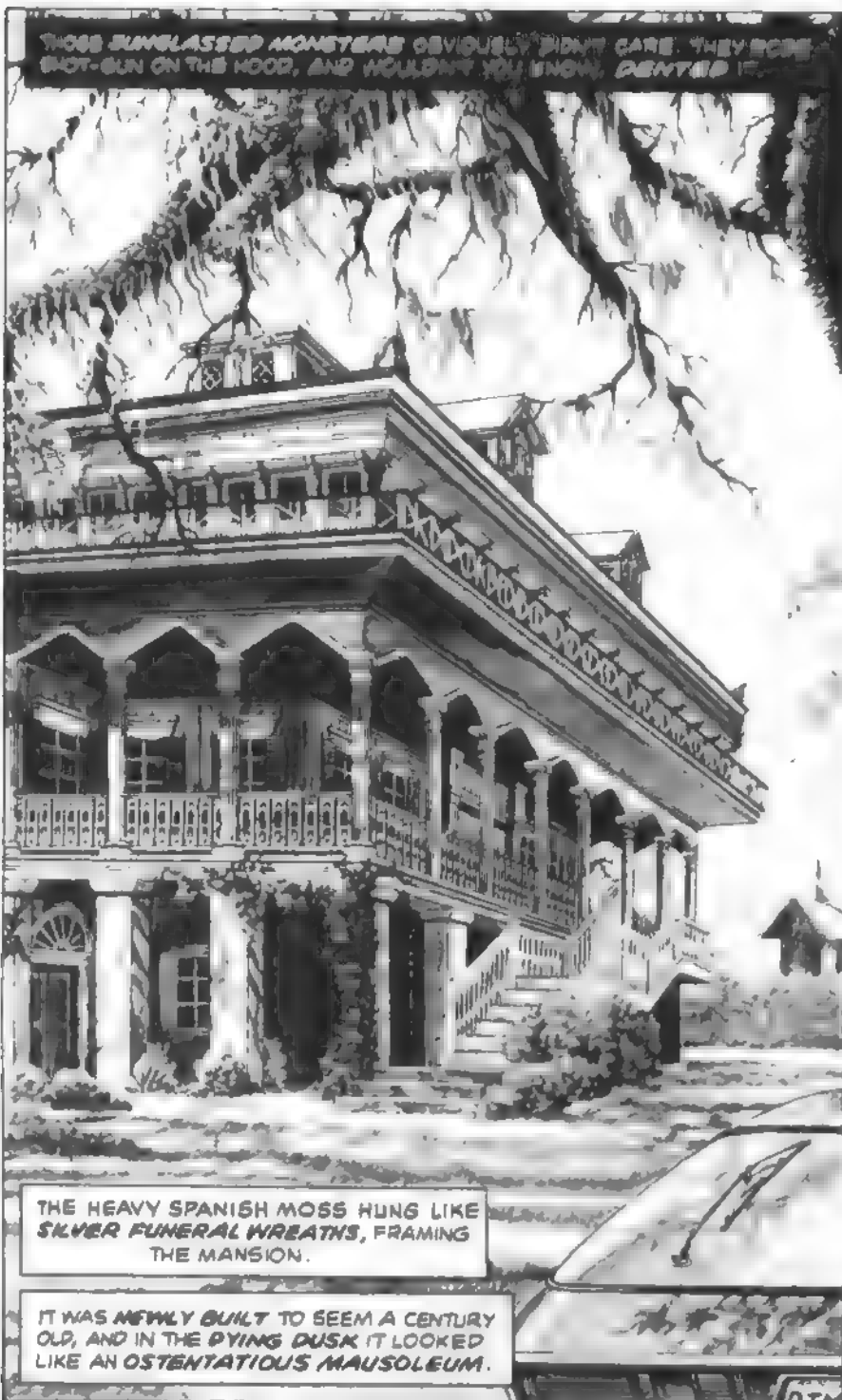
INTRACOASTAL MEDICAL DOESN'T MAKE HOUSECALLS TOO OFTEN, BUT THE COPEs, THAT NAME STILL MEANS WEALTH IN THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY.





I STARTED TO EXPLAIN THAT I COULD SYMPATHIZE WITH THE COPE WHO'D BECOME RECLUSIVES AFTER THE 1980 RIOTS, WHEN THE AFFLUENT AGE FOR THE MASSES ENDED VIOLENTLY--BUT THE GUARD STOPPED ME, AND FORCED ME TO DRIVE THE OLD MAN TO THE COPE MANSION.

LOOK, MAN, HE'S GETTING SUICIDAL. ALL OVER THE NAUGHTYHYDE! DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT COSTS TO KEEP THESE SUCKERS CLEAN?



THOSE JUNGLEGLASS MONSTERS OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T CARE. THEY COPE SHOT-GUN ON THE HOOD, AND WOULDN'T YOU KNOW, DENIED IT.

THE HEAVY SPANISH MOSS HUNG LIKE SILVER FUNERAL WREATHS, FRAMING THE MANSION.

IT WAS NEWLY BUILT TO SEEM A CENTURY OLD, AND IN THE DYING DUSK IT LOOKED LIKE AN OSTENTATIOUS MAUSOLEUM.

I FIRST CLIMBED REBECCA COPE THROUGH THE TALL WINDOWS, AND IN THE SHADOWS SHE LOOKED...
"SAVAGED... HAUNTED."

I'D EXPECTED REBECCA TO BE A BELLE IN TAFFETA. BUT EVEN THOUGH SHE WORE MODERN SYNTHETICS, SHE HAD ALL OF THAT TRADITION...AND MORE.





HEY! WHERE'S YOUR LOOK-ALIKE TAKING THAT WASTED OLD MAN?

DON'T WORRY YOUR PRETTY HEAD BOUT IT, MAN! SOME.

AND THE CAR! WHERE'S HE TAKING MY CAR? THEY CAN THROW YOU IN JAIL FOR LOSING ONE OF THOSE MOTHERS!



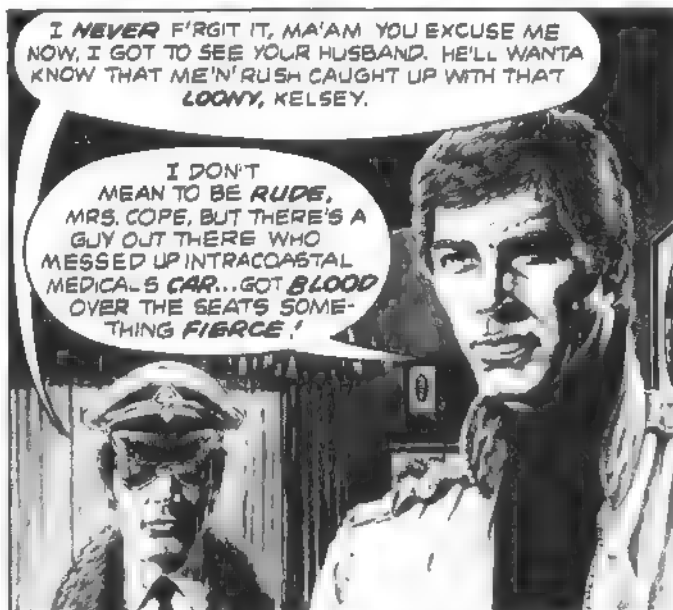
LOOK! I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOU SHOVING ME AROUND. I DON'T GO LOOKING FOR FIGHTS, BUT I'VE SEEN WHAT HAPPENS TO GUYS WHO DO. I SEW THEM UP! THINK ABOUT THAT!

WHAT I THINK IS... I HEAR YOUR LIP MOVE SPUNKY-LIKE AGAIN... I'M A PRETTY FAST KNIFE, I'LL SKIN IT RIGHT OFF A YOUR FACE!



MR. AVERDEEN! HONESTLY! I DON'T LIKE TO CHIDE YOU, BUT DR CAVANAUGH IS A GUEST. PLEASE TRY TO TREAT HIM LIKE ONE!

DR. CAVANAUGH, I'M REBECCA COPE. AS FOR YOU, MR. AVERDEEN, LET US REMEMBER... ALWAYS... THAT THE COPE FAMILY IS NOTED FOR ITS HOSPITALITY AND ITS COMPASSION.



I NEVER F'RGIT IT, MA'AM YOU EXCUSE ME NOW, I GOT TO SEE YOUR HUSBAND. HE'LL WANTA KNOW THAT ME'N'RUSH CAUGHT UP WITH THAT LOONY, KELSEY.

I DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE, MRS. COPE, BUT THERE'S A GUY OUT THERE WHO MESSED UP INTRACOASTAL MEDICAL'S CAR... GOT BLOOD OVER THE SEATS SOMETHING FIERCE!



AND THAT GUY WITH THE ONE-WAY GLASSES THAT JUST WALKED OUTTA HERE ...HIM AND HIS SOUL-MATE ARE CANDIDATES FOR THE PSYCHO-WARD!

RURIK AND RUSH ARE TWINS. THEY RATHER TAKE MY BREATH AWAY.

COME, I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT THEM AS WE DINE. YOUR JOURNEY MUST HAVE LEFT YOU TIRED AND HUNGRY.



THE AVERDEEN BROTHERS ALWAYS DRESS IDENTICALLY...QUITE FANATICAL ABOUT IT...AND THOSE MATCHING SCARS--

--WELL!--IT SEEMS THAT WHEN RURIK WAS IN HIS TEENS HE KILLED THE MAN WHO SCARRED HIM, EXCEPT --OH! THIS IS DREADFUL!-- AFTER THE FIGHT, THEY NO LONGER LOOKED ALIKE.

WARD, RURIK SLASHED HIS OWN BROTHER! RUSH WANTED HIM TO...SO THEY COULD HAVE THE SAME, EXACT SCAR, YOU SEE.

AHH, HERE COMES OUR BUTLER, HILTON, WARD MAY I CALL YOU WARD? WE SO SELDOM HAVE COMPANY AND GOOD CONVERSATION.



BUT I HAVEN'T SAID TWO SEN--



I HOPE YOU WON'T LET FIRST IMPRESSIONS TAINT YOUR ATTITUDE. YOU SEE, I NEED YOUR HELP. I WISH I DIDN'T. I WISH THE WORLD WERE A GOSSAMER DREAM, BUT IT ISN'T. IS IT, WARD?

I DON'T MEAN TO BROOD, HONESTLY I DON'T.

YOU SEE THIS HOUSE? IN A WAY, IT WAS MY HUSBAND'S DREAM...HARRIS'S RETREAT TO SAFETY...AFTER ALL THOSE STRIKES FOR WHAT PEOPLE CALLED LIVABLE WAGES...
...WAGES UP, PRICES UP, AGAIN AND AGAIN, UNTIL IT ALL FELL DOWN! CRASH!



BEYOND REBECCA THE PLASTER WAS BRUISED AND BROKEN...AS IF THE HOUSE ITSELF HAD BEEN DEALT SOME DREADFUL BLOW...



--AND BENEATH ITS CIVILE BROKEN WALLS VESSELS HAD RUPTURED.



THE PEOPLE WERE USED TO HAVING EVERYTHING WE ARISTOCRATS HAD...THEY DIDN'T SURRENDER IT WILLINGLY, DID THEY? DON'T TELL HARRIS I SAID THIS, BUT PERHAPS IT'S A TIME OF ATTRITION FOR ARISTOCRATS, AS WELL.



NOW, WE CAN'T GET REAL CHICKENS BUT TWICE A YEAR, AND YOU CAN'T PREPARE SOYBEAN CHICKENS PROPER, ALL FANCY AND SCRUMPY-TIOUS, WITH WHITE GRAVY.



MRS. COPE, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME WE GOT DOWN TO WHY YOU CALLED ME OUT HERE?

IS IT YOUR HUSBAND? IS HE ILL?



I WANTED TO PUT IT OFF AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. FIND THE RIGHT WAY TO TELL YOU ABOUT... ABOUT **THIS HOUSE**--

--ABOUT OUR FAMILY.



I SOMETIMES WONDER IF WHAT'S HAPPENING TO **US**... IF IT'S HAPPENING TO **ALL** THE FAMILIES? HAVE ALL THE MARRIED LOVERS **LOST** EACH OTHER... CAN OUR CHILDREN KNOW WHAT WE **FELT**--

--FEEL.



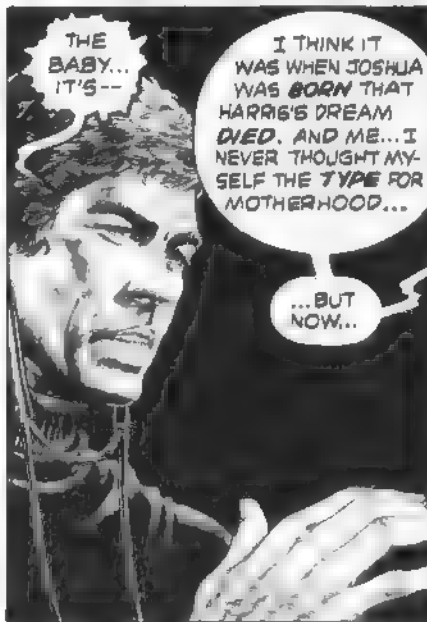
THIS IS OUR SON'S ROOM. NO, DON'T TURN ON THE **LIGHT**! LIGHT ONLY SHOWS HOW THE CHEAP MATERIALS THEY USED TO MAKE THE WALLS HAS GONE TO **RUINS**.



OF COURSE, MR KELSEY, HE SAYS IT'S BECAUSE OF WHAT'S **BURIED** IN THE GROUND HERE... **UNDER** OUR HOUSE--

--BUT HE'S **RAVING**--

--RAVING ALL THE TIME!



THE **BABY**... IT'S--

I THINK IT WAS WHEN JOSHUA WAS **BORN** THAT HARRIS'S DREAM **DIED**. AND ME... I NEVER THOUGHT MYSELF THE **TYPE** FOR MOTHERHOOD...

...BUT NOW...



SHE KISSED THE **BABY'S** BLANK, TWISTED LITTLE FACE AND WITH A **BOB** RACED THE WINDOW AND THE DYING SUN

JOSHUA... SWEET... SWEET...

..POOR DARLING.



REBECCA: CLING TO ME THEN, WANTING ANSWERS. I FOUGHT THE **SIGNS** IN MY THROAT. SUDDENLY BLAD I WAS ADULT AND WHOLE

THE **BABY'S** BODY WAS TWISTED... HIS MIND WOULD ALWAYS WANDER UNCOMPREHENDING IN AN ETERNAL MONGOLOID TWILIGHT IN THE QUIET SHADOWS OF THE NURSERY, I WAS A **SHAME** OF MY WHOLE AND ADULT REACTION.

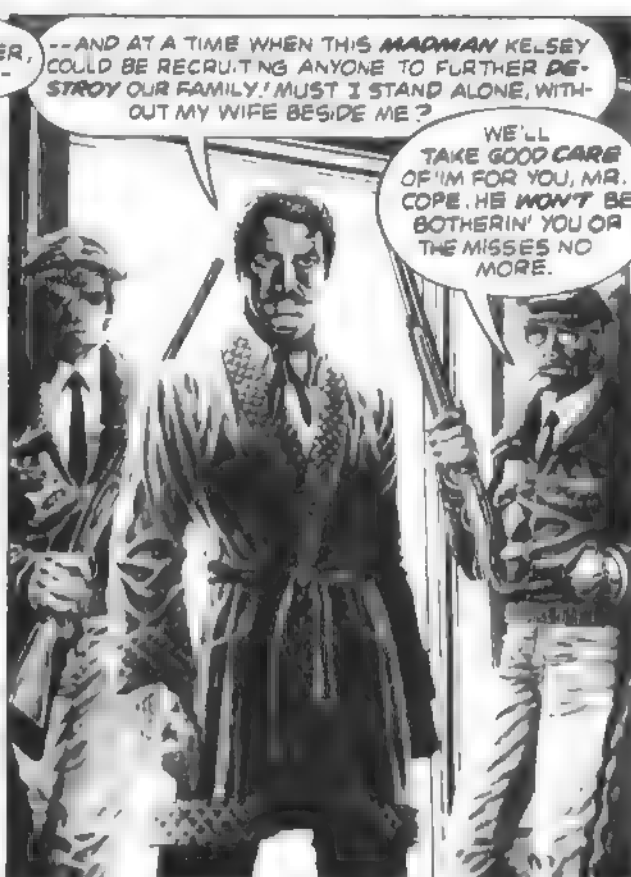
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO HELP THE CHILD, MRS COPE. HE APPEARS TO HAVE-- **CONGENITAL DEFECTS**.

YOU'VE GOT TO HELP US! WE'RE DYING! **ALL OF US!** I FEAR, MR. KELSEY ISN'T MAD IN HIS RAVINGS!



REBECCA! HOW DARE YOU SHOW HIM OUR SHAME!

A STRANGER, NO LESS--



--AND AT A TIME WHEN THIS MADMAN KELSEY COULD BE RECRUITING ANYONE TO FURTHER DESTROY OUR FAMILY! MUST I STAND ALONE, WITHOUT MY WIFE BESIDE ME?

WE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM FOR YOU, MR. COPE. HE WON'T BE BOTHERIN' YOU OR THE MISSES NO MORE.



LISTEN, S.R. YOU TELL THESE GHOULS TO LET GO OF ME! I WASN'T LOOKING TO GET INTO THE MIDDLE OF ANY FAMILY FIGHT.

I'M A DOCTOR, AND I'M GOING TO TELL YOU STRAIGHT OUT. MRS COPE DIDN'T TELL ME ABOUT YOUR CONDITION... BUT SHE SHOULD'VE. THOSE SORES ARE SKIN CANCER! YOU DON'T NEED TESTS TO RECOGNIZE IT WHEN YOU'VE GOT IT THAT BAD!

TAKE HIM AWAY, RURIK! RUSH!



LOOK, YOU IDIOT! MAYBE IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE TO STOP IT. YOUR TEETH HAVE ALREADY BLACKENED! DON'T TELL ME YOU DIDN'T NOTICE WHEN YOU LOOKED IN THE BATHROOM MIRROR!

YOU'LL LOSE THOSE TEETH... THEY'LL JUST FALL OUT... AND THAT'LL BE THE PLEASANTEST THING THAT HAPPENS TO YOU WHEN THOSE SORES START SPREADING!



I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!

HELL! I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO TELL IT TO YOU! IT'S A VERY, VERY PAINFUL DEATH. IT'S A LONG WAY OF DYING.

LOCK HIM AWAY WITH THE OTHER MADMAN! LET THEM SPEAK THEIR LIES AND TREACHERIES TO EACH OTHER.

LET THEM WORRY ABOUT DEATH!

MY INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE GREAT LORD WERE DECEPTIVELY SIMPLE--I WAS TO SEEK OUT A CERTAIN PRIEST DO-SHIN AT THE GATE OF RASHOMON AND RECEIVE FROM HIM THE SEALED ORDERS FOR MY FIRST ASSIGNMENT AS THE GREAT LORD'S OFFICIAL ASSASSIN.

I FOUND DO-SHIN AT A MONASTERY ADJACENT TO RASHOMON--HE WAS COCKING A GOOSE- FEATHERED SHAFI TO HIS EAR, SENDING A 300 POUND-FULL REFLEX WAR BOW AS IF IT WERE A WILLOW WAND...

...SO, YOUNG PUP-- YOU CLAIM TO BE THE YOUNG MASTER, SON OF THE VENERABLE OLD MASTER...YOU FURTHER CLAIM TO HAVE DISPATCHED YOUR FATHER AND THREE UNCLES TO LORD BUDDHA'S PURE LAND BY PROWESS OF ARMS!

I STAND BEFORE A FAT OLD MAN WHO CLAIMS TO BE PRIEST DO-SHIN, THE GREATEST ARCHER IN THE LAND AND TRUSTED CONFIDANT OF THE GREAT LORD. AM I TO TAKE YOUR WORD FOR THIS? WHERE IS YOUR PROOF?

WE HAD REACHED A STALE-MATE...WE COULD PROCEED NO FURTHER WITHOUT FIRST ESTABLISHING OUR...

DO YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT A FRESH-WEANED PUP HAS DEFEATED THE PREMIER MARTIAL ARTISTS OF ALL JAPAN? WHERE IS YOUR PROOF?

CREDENTIALS

AHHH--THE YOUNG PUP MISTRUSTS ME!

IS THAT THE REASON FOR DEPLOYING ARMED THUGS ALL A-SKULK IN THE ABBOT'S CHRYSANTHEMUMS?

I CAME ALONE. I HAD PRESUMED THOSE THREE TO BE YOUR ACOLYTES.

I HAVE NO ACOLYTES.

I'LL TAKE THE ONE BY THE GATE...

..YOU TAKE THE TWO IN THE TREE!

THE FIRST TWO ASSASSINS WERE JOURNEMEN--THEY DIED LIKE CATTLE...



...THE THIRD HAD THE SPEED AND SKILL OF A MINOR MASTER...

...HE EXECUTED A PERFECT CLASSICAL MANEUVER-- WHAT CHINESE SCHOLARS CALL: DRAGON SACRIFICING HIS OWN WING.



IT WOULD HAVE PROBABLY SAVED HIS LIFE -- IF THE ARROW HADN'T BEEN MADE OF SOLID IRON.

...AND THE ARCHER HADN'T BEEN PRIEST DO-SHIN!



...ONLY THE HEIR OF THE OLD MASTER COULD KILL TWO WITH ONE STROKE FROM THE DRAW...



...AND ONLY PRIEST DO-SHIN CAN PULL A BOW STRONG ENOUGH TO SHOOT ARROWS OF IRON.

SO MUCH FOR CREDENTIALS... LET US RETIRE TO THE CHAPEL, WE SHALL LIGHT INCENSE AND CHANT THE SANSKRIT DIRGES THAT YOUR SIRE MIGHT REST EASIER IN PARADISE.



DO-SHIN'S TASTE IN DIRGES RAN TOWARDS THE LONG AND THE TEDIOUS. THE CHAPEL WAS STUFFY AND OVER-HEATED.



THERE SEEMED TO BE NO TANGIBLE CAUSE FOR MY DROWSINESS. THERE WAS NO REASON TO SUSPECT THE SWEET INCENSE SMOKE CURLING LIKE DREAM TENDRILS AROUND MY NODDING HEAD...

...WAS IT AN EXTRACT OF THE DEADLY BLACK LOTUS?



OR WAS IT PRESSED FROM THE RED POPPIES THAT FLOURISH IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE?

THESE WERE QUESTIONS I WANTED TO ASK OF THE BLOOMER...



...BUT HE CHANGED INTO A DRAGON...



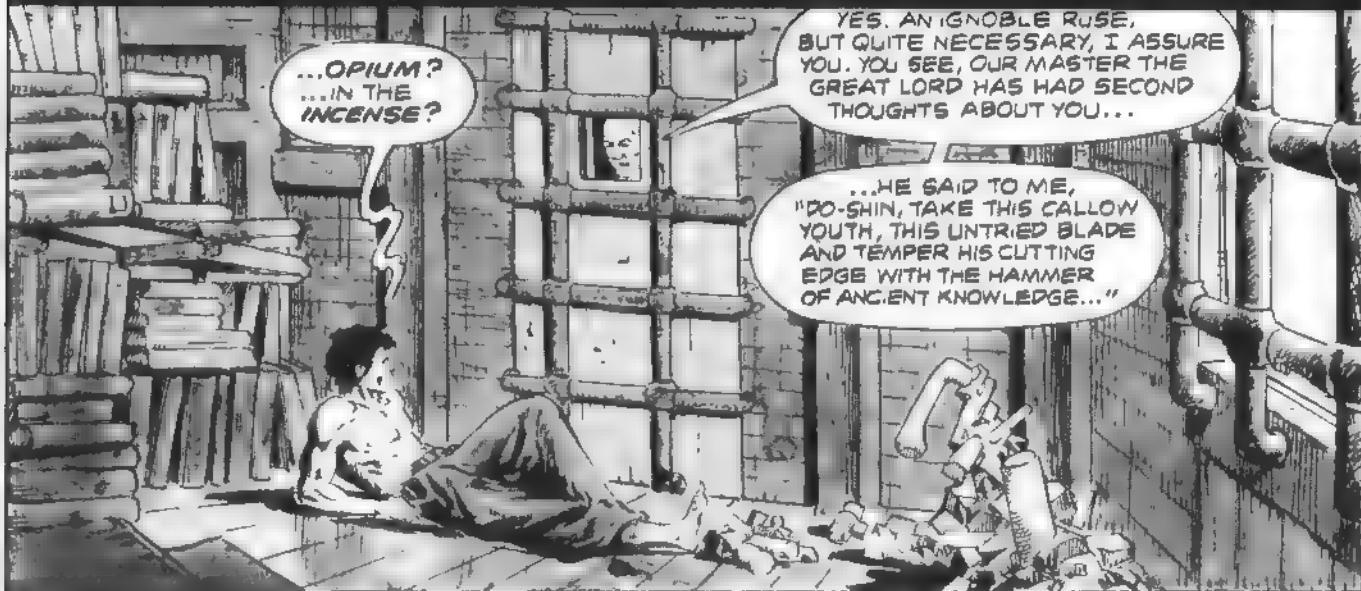
...SCREAMING BUTTERFLIES BURST FROM THE DRAGON'S BELLY...



...THE MYSTIC POWDER FROM THEIR WINGS COVERED MY EYES -- AND I SAW NO MORE.

...AN SON PASSED...THE UNIVERSE WAS DESTROYED -- AND REBORN...I AWOKED WITH A START... IN A CELL...

...OPIUM?
...IN THE
INCENSE?



...AND WHEN THE GREAT LORD COMMANDS, PRIEST DO-SHIN OBEYS! HERE, IN THIS CELL, I SHALL POLISH YOUR MIND AND MAKE A SCHOLAR OF YOU, AS SURELY AS MEN HUNGER AND THIRST!



FORGIVE ME, YOUR REVERENCE. BUT I SUSPECT SOME SWISTER SUB-TEXT IN YOUR CHOICE OF THE WORDS HUNGER AND THIRST.



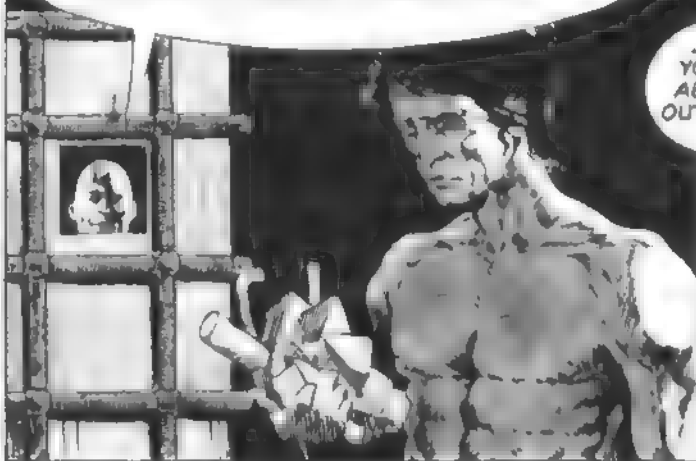
VERY ASTUTE! THE PONDEROUS IRON-BOUND VOLUMES WHICH FURNISH YOUR GARRET ORIGINALLY GRACED THE SHELVES OF THE SHAO-LIN TEMPLE'S SECRET LIBRARY. THEY CONTAIN THE COMPLETE WORKS OF THE CHINESE MASTERS WITH COMMENTARIES BY CONFUCIOUS AND LAO-TSU...ESSAYS WRITTEN BY BODHI-DHARMA'S OWN HAND...TWO THOUSAND YEARS' WORTH OF PHILOSOPHY, ART AND SCIENCE...



EVERY TIME YOU READ TEN VOLUMES, I WILL GIVE YOU ONE BOWL OF RICE...



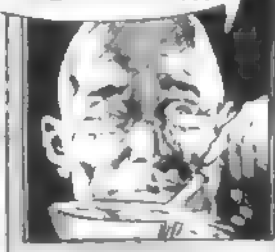
YOUR CELL ALSO CONTAINS TEN THOUSAND CUNNINGLY WROUGHT WOODEN PUZZLES. EACH ONE WAS DESIGNED AND CARVED BY THE MAD MATHEMATICIAN SATOSHI HIROTA DURING HIS THIRTY YEAR INCARCERATION AT THE BOTTOM OF A WELL. WHEN THE GREAT LORD DEMANDED THE SOLUTIONS TO THE PUZZLES, HIROTA INEXPLICABLY COMMITTED SUICIDE WITH A POISON SUPPOSITORY.

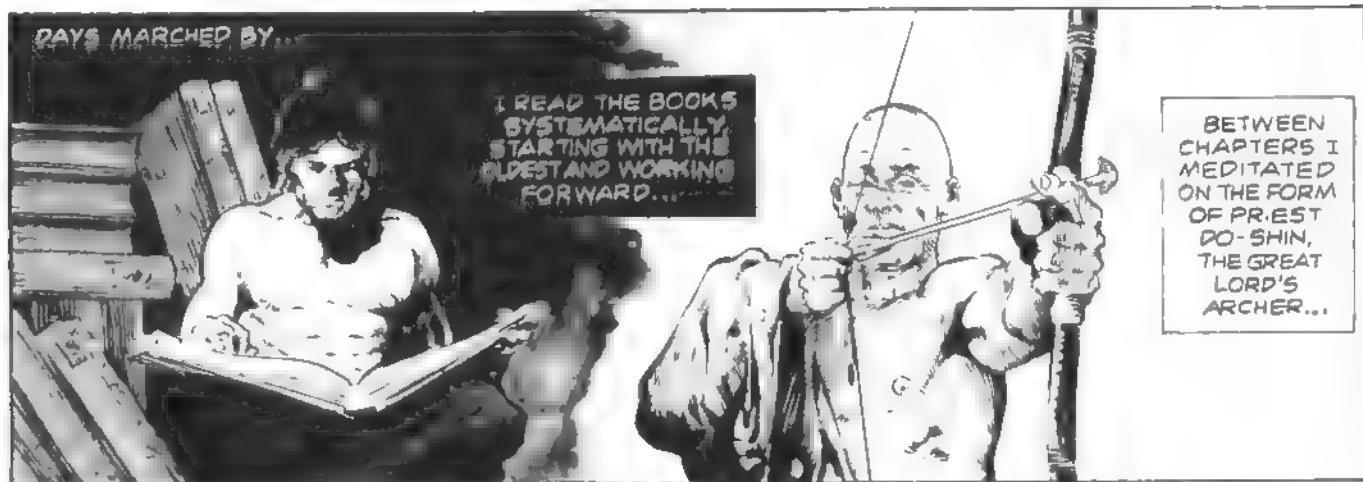


EVERY TIME YOU SOLVE TEN PUZZLES, I WILL GIVE YOU ONE FLASK OF WATER...

...WHEN YOU HAVE READ ALL THE BOOKS AND SOLVED ALL THE PUZZLES I WILL RELEASE YOU...

...A BRIGHT LAD LIKE YOURSELF SHOULD BE ABLE TO WORK HIS WAY OUT OF THIS ATTIC IN NO TIME AT ALL...





ON THE MORNING OF THE SEVENTH DAY OF MY FOURTH YEAR, I AWOKED TO FIND CLOTHES AND SWORDS RETURNED TO ME.



I HAD ALREADY DRESSED AND ARMED MYSELF BEFORE I REALIZED THAT THE ROOM WAS GONE.



AND I KNEW WHO WAS WAITING FOR ME IN THE NEXT ROOM!



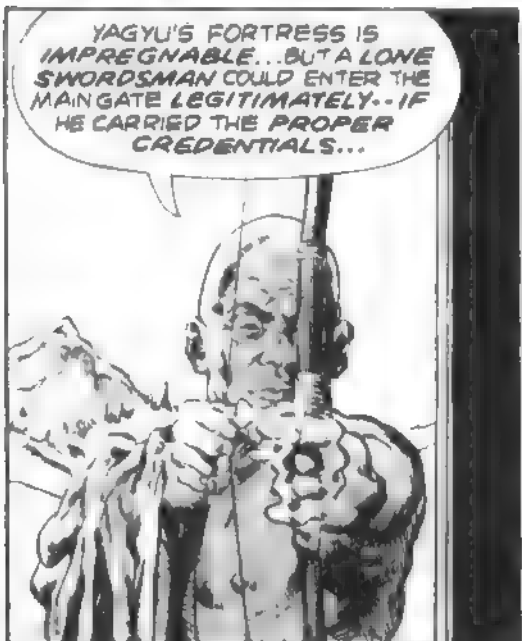
...DO-SHIN!



YOUR ORDERS FROM THE GREAT LORD ARE THUS, YOU SHALL PROCEED TO THE FORTRESS OF OLD MAN YAGYU--THE FATHER OF NINJAS...SWORN ENEMY OF THE GREAT LORD...

YOU SHALL GAIN ACCESS TO THE INNER CASTLE AND YOU SHALL SLAY THE OLD MAN'S ELDEST SON.

YAGYU'S FORTRESS IS IMPREGNABLE...BUT A LONE SWORDSMAN COULD ENTER THE MAIN GATE LEGITIMATELY--IF HE CARRIED THE PROPER CREDENTIALS...



CREDENTIALS?



I DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE SHELVES TO EITHER SIDE OF ME...





SOMETHING ON THIS ROW IS AN IRREFUTABLE TOKEN THAT WILL GAIN YOU DIRECT ADMITTANCE TO YAGYU'S FORTRESS.

TO PROVE YOUR WORTHINESS FOR THIS TASK, YOU MUST CHOOSE THE SINGLE CORRECT TOKEN...

...PLACE IT IN THAT EMPTY BOX AND CARRY IT TO YAGYU CASTLE.

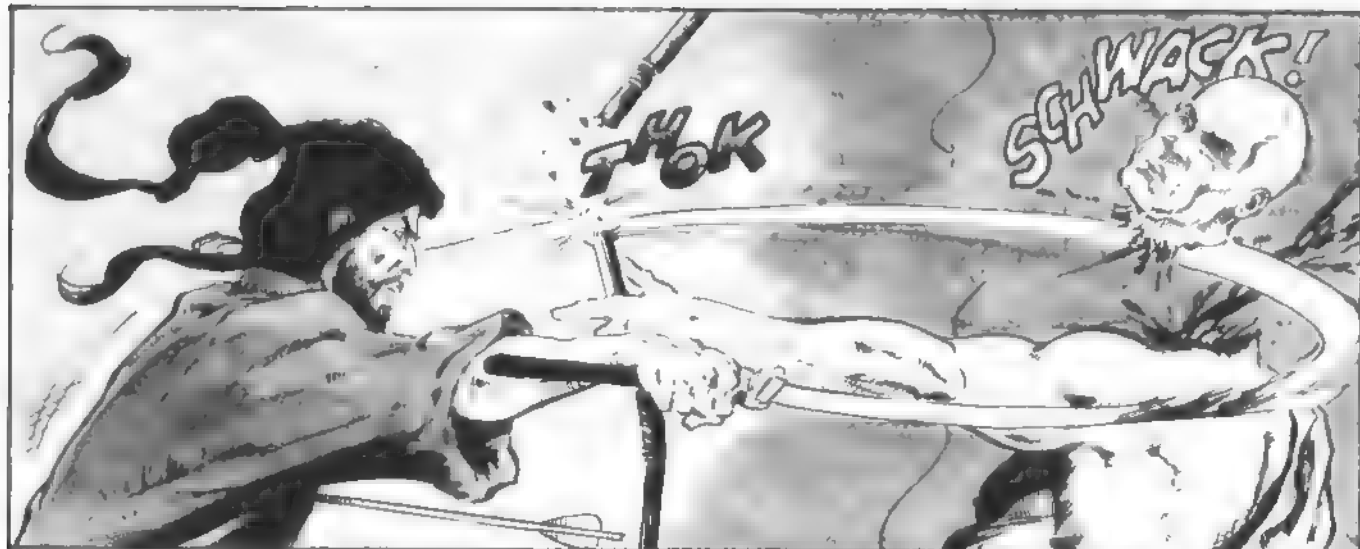
FAILURE TO CHOOSE THE CORRECT TOKEN WILL RESULT IN YOUR DEATH...

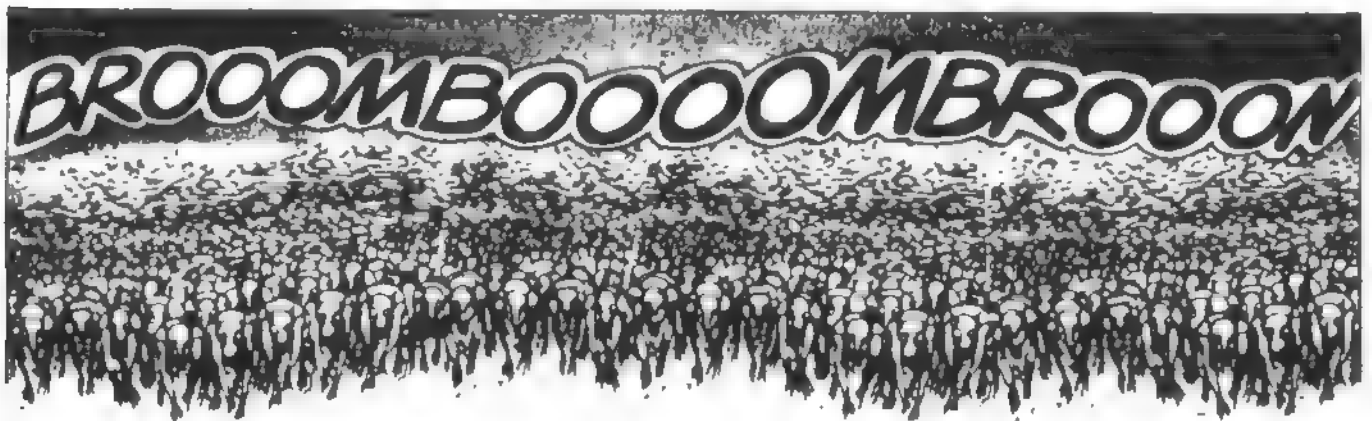
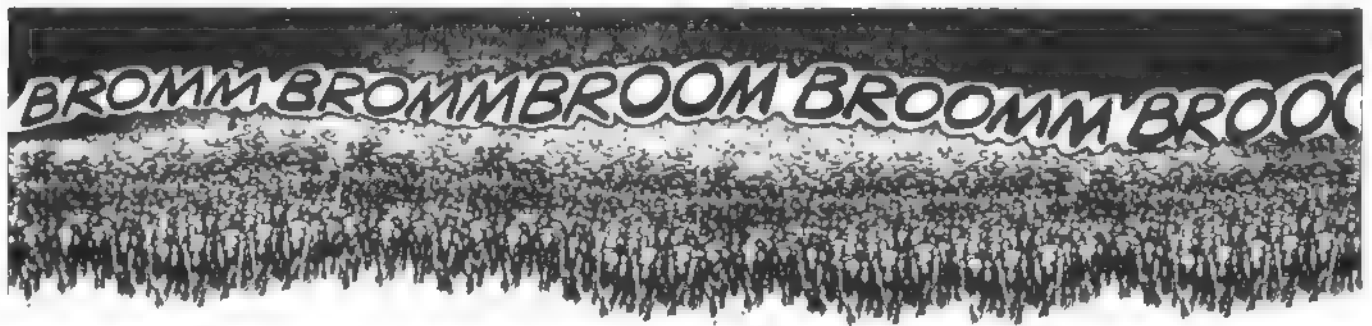
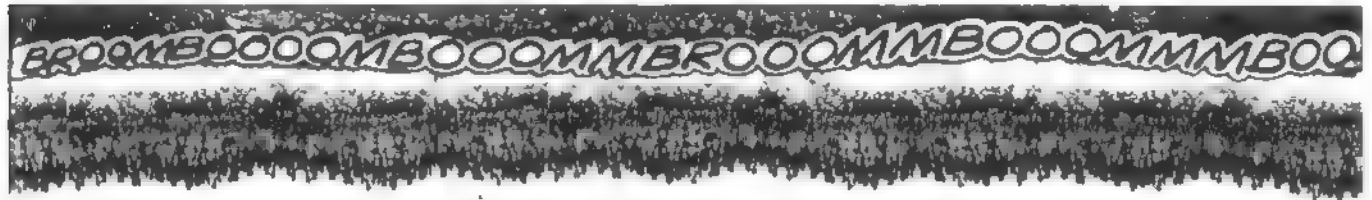
...YOU HAVE THREE SECONDS TO DECIDE...

...ONE...

...TWO...





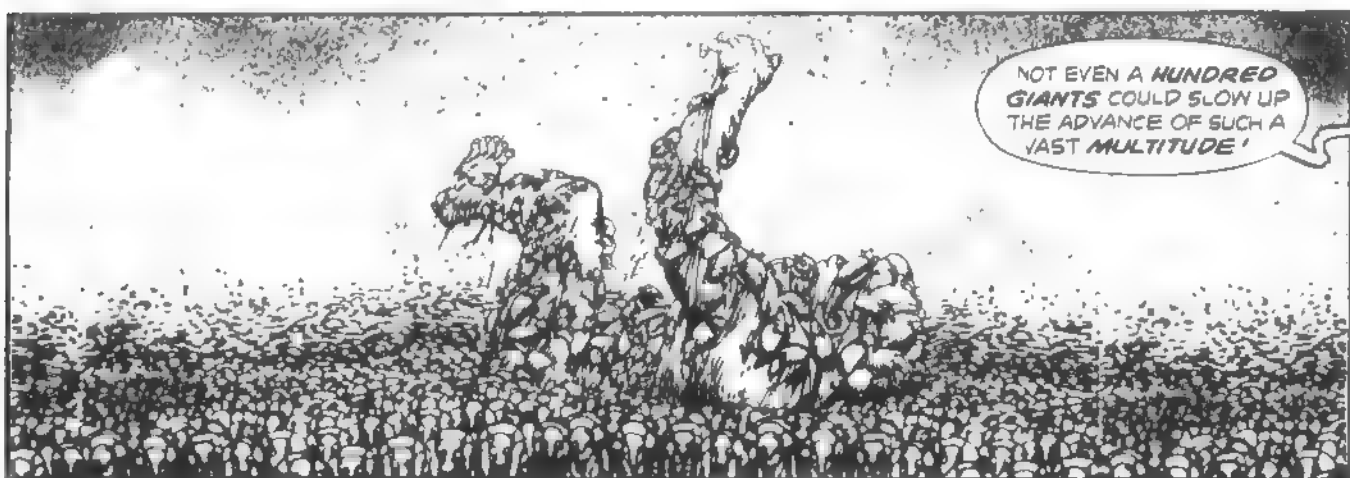


ALLISON AND JESSE! THEY CAME FROM DIFFERENT ENDS OF THE EARTH -- THE EARTH AS IT WAS, BEFORE THE MYSTERIOUS **HOLOCAUST** WHICH RELENTLESSLY **WARPED** EVERYTHING ON THE FACE OF THE PLANET -- **ANIMAL, MINERAL AND VEGETABLE!** LIKE THE REST OF HUMANITY'S **SURVIVORS, ALLISON AND JESSE HAVE NO MEMORIES OF THEIR PASTS!**

AND IN LIGHT OF THE **MARCHING MILLIONS** ADVANCING TOWARD THEM -- THEY MAY HAVE FORSAKEN THEIR **FUTURES** AS WELL...

The Horizon Seekers

the Damned & the Dead



"LOOK AHEAD, ALLISON--
FAR BEYOND WHERE THE
GIANT FELL!"

"I SEE IT! IT LOOKS TO BE
SOME SORT OF FORTRESS,
PERHAPS!"



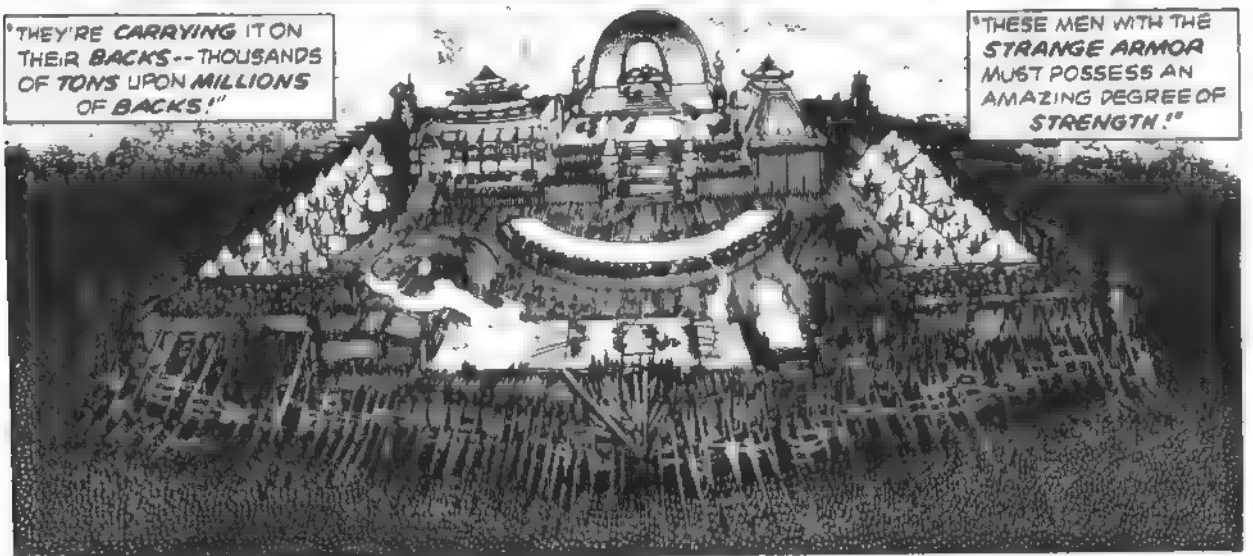
"LOOK AGAIN! IT'S A FORTRESS
WHICH GROWS LARGER WITH
EACH PASSING SECOND!"

"YOU'RE RIGHT! SO HUGE--AND
YET IT APPEARS TO BE
MOVING!"



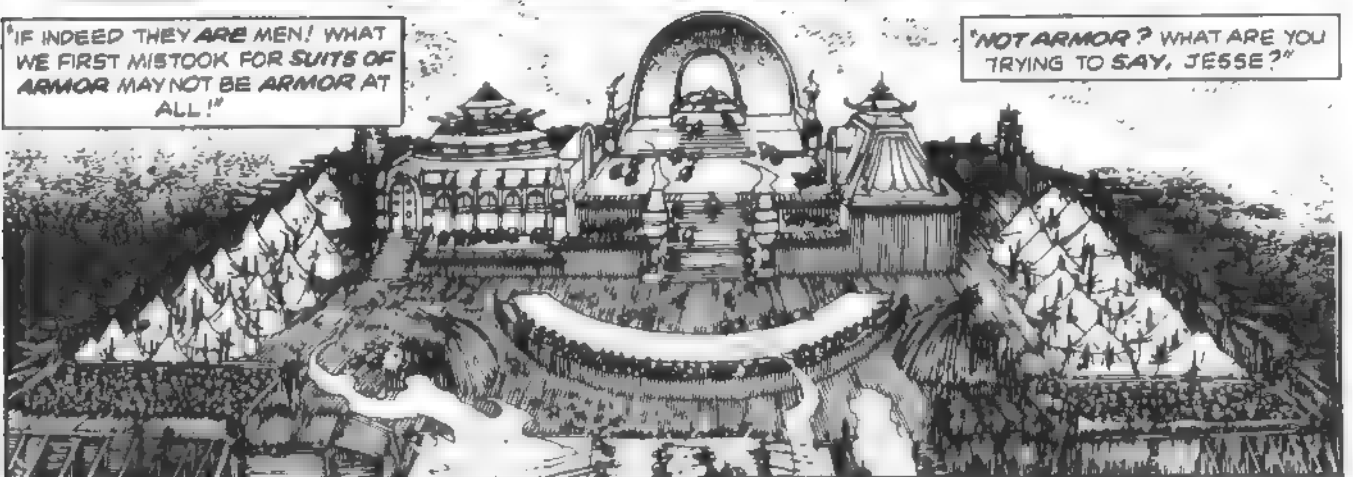
"THEY'RE CARRYING IT ON
THEIR BACKS--THOUSANDS
OF TONS UPON MILLIONS
OF BACKS!"

"THESE MEN WITH THE
STRANGE ARMOR
MUST POSSESS AN
AMAZING DEGREE OF
STRENGTH!"



"IF INDEED THEY ARE MEN! WHAT
WE FIRST MISTOOK FOR SUITS OF
ARMOR MAY NOT BE ARMOR AT
ALL!"

"NOT ARMOR? WHAT ARE YOU
TRYING TO SAY, JESSE?"





NO TIME TO GO INTO IT *NOW!* COME ON--LET'S TAKE SHELTER!

QUICK...INTO MERLIN'S CHAMBER!



DO YOU REALLY THINK THIS'LL STOP THEM?

AT LEAST IT WILL BUY US SOME TIME... TO THINK!



PLEASE, MERLIN--DON'T LEAVE ME OUT HERE!



IT'S ONE OF MY FOLLOWERS! LET HIM IN!



LOOK OUT! WHAT IN GOD'S NAME IS THAT THING?

AIEEE! HELP ME!

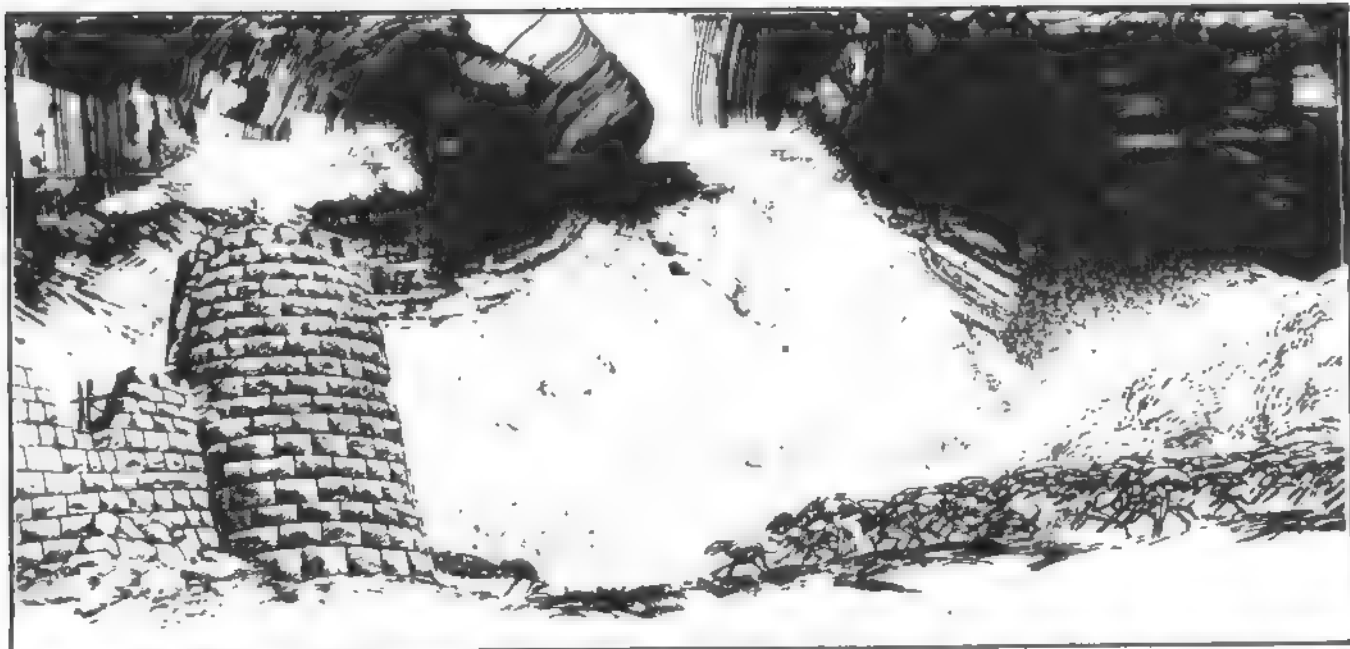


THE ENEMY!



I KILLED IT-- BUT I'M AFRAID IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT POOR WRETCH!

BAR THAT DOOR! QUICK!





BY THE GODS!
THAT **MULTITUDE**
OUTSIDE EXTENDS TO
THE VERY **HORIZON**
ITSELF!

NO MAN-
MADE WALLS
COULD EVER
DETAIN THEM
FOR MORE
THAN A FEW
MOMENTS!

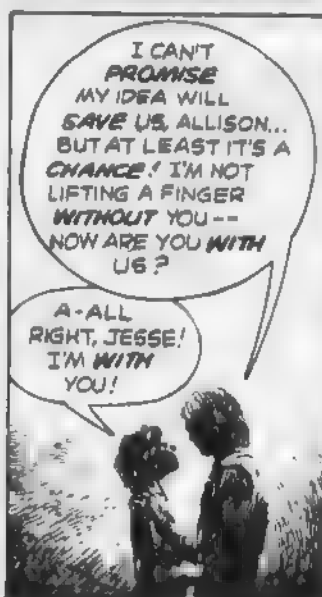


HURRY--
BLOCK OFF THAT
WINDOW!

WHAT'S THE
POINT? WE ARE
ALL **DOOMED** ANY-
WAY, AREN'T WE?



PERHAPS NOT!
MERLIN--THE CREATURE
I KILLED IS **BLEEDING**
PROFUSELY. WE MAY BE
ABLE TO **USE** THAT TO
OUR **ADVANTAGE!**



I CAN'T
PROMISE
MY IDEA WILL
SAVE US, ALLISON...
BUT AT LEAST IT'S A
CHANCE! I'M NOT
LIFTING A FINGER
WITHOUT YOU--
NOW ARE YOU **WITH**
US?

A-ALL
RIGHT, **JESSE!**
I'M **WITH**
YOU!



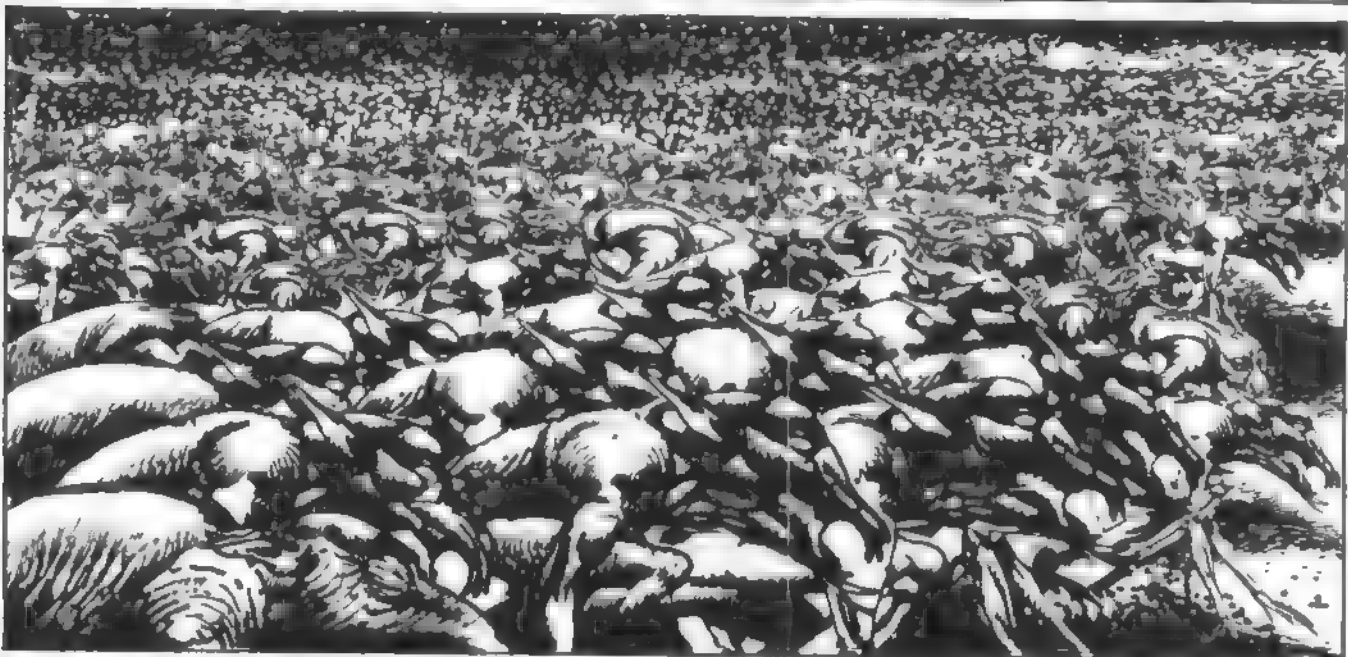
THAT'S IT--
MAKE SURE YOU
SMEAR THE CREATURE'S
BLOOD OVER EVERY
PART OF YOUR BODY!

ECHH!
IT SMELLS
DISGUSTING!

LISTEN!
I FEAR THE
MONSTROUS HERD
IS ALMOST
UPON US!



"**WRONG, MY FRIEND! IT IS**
WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO
DESCEND **UPON** THEM!"





THEIR PACE
IS SO DREADFULLY
SLOW!

BE GRATEFUL
FOR THAT! WE'RE COM-
PLETELY SURROUNDED
NOW! WE WILL NO DOUBT
BE ON OUR FEET FOR
MANY HOURS TO
COME...



...THROUGH THE NIGHT..."



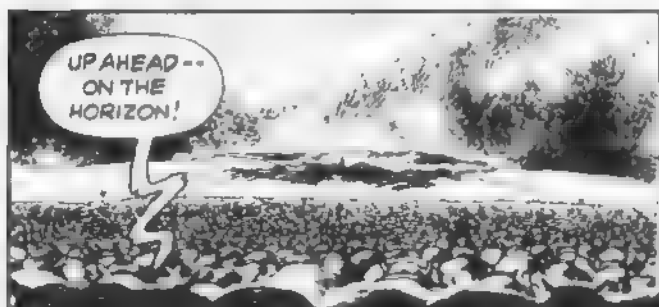
"...AND INTO THE FOLLOWING MORNING!"

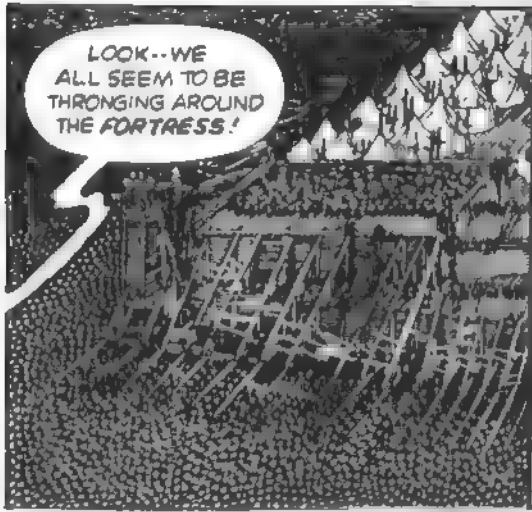
MY LEGS
AND FEET--THEY
HAVE BEEN SCRAPED
RAW!



I DON'T
KNOW HOW MUCH
LONGER I CAN
LAST, JESSE!

YOU MUST
HOLD ON! THEY STOP
FOR NOTHING! ANYONE
WHO FALLS WILL MOST
SURELY BE TRAMPLED
A MILLION TIMES
OVER!



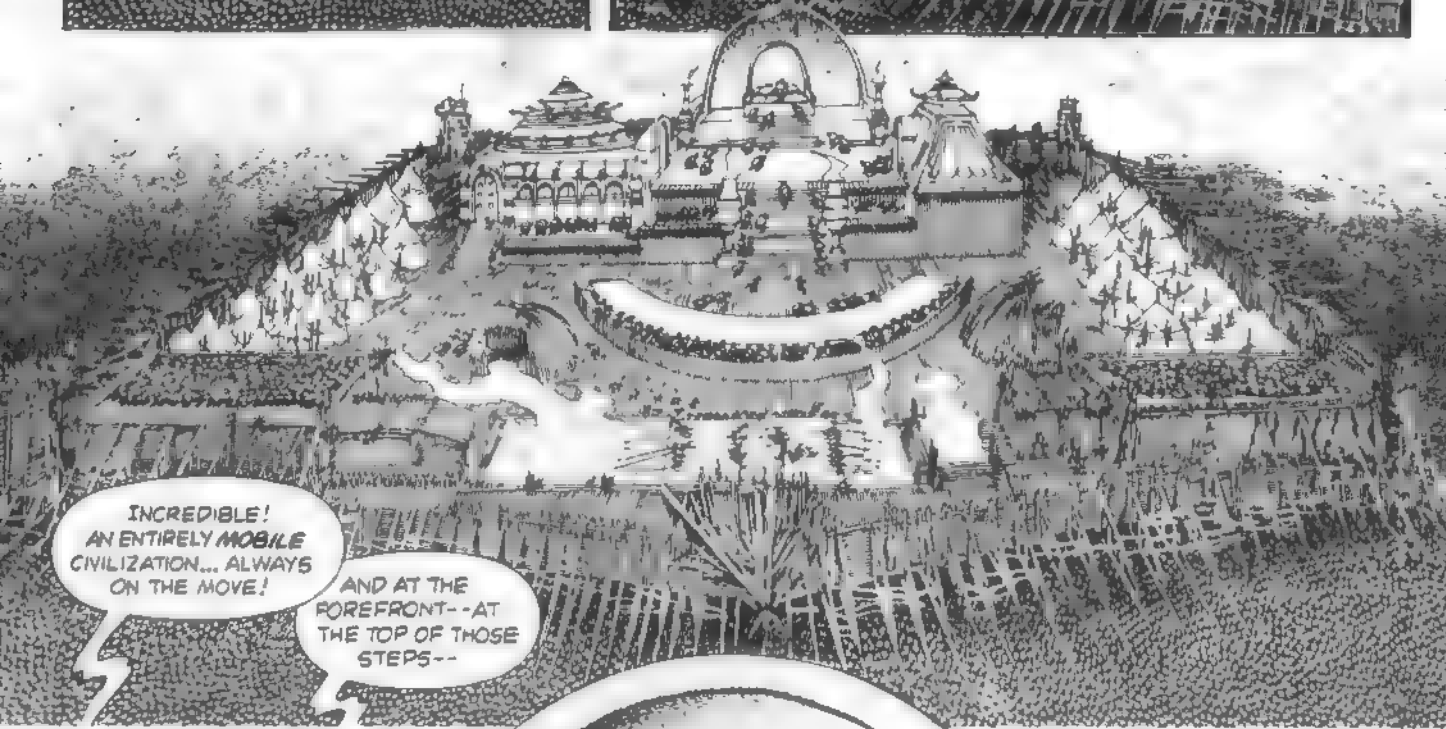


LOOK--WE
ALL SEEM TO BE
THRONING AROUND
THE **FORTRESS!**



THEY SEEM TO
HAVE **PAUSED** IN THAT
SHALLOW VALLEY
AHEAD!

AT LAST
WE'LL HAVE A
CLEAR VIEW OF THE
WHOLE STRUCTURE!



INCREDIBLE!
AN ENTIRELY **MOBILE**
CIVILIZATION... ALWAYS
ON THE MOVE!

AND AT THE
FOREFRONT--AT
THE TOP OF THOSE
STEPS--



A COURT!
WITH A
THRONE!

AND AN
EMPEROR!



EASY
NOW... SLOWLY...
VERY SLOWLY! WE'RE
NEARLY THERE!



AND WHAT DO
WE DO ONCE WE GET
OURSELVES INSIDE
THE FORTRESS?

WE'LL
THINK ABOUT
THAT WHEN THE
TIME COMES!



RIGHT
NOW ALL WE
THINK ABOUT IS
CLIMBING!



NO SUDDEN
MOVES, ALLISON!
LET ME PULL
YOU UP!




I'M SO
TIRED...
JESSE...

JUST A FEW
MORE BEAMS--
AND WE'LL FIND A
VANTAGE POINT
WHERE WE CAN
REST!



LOOK OUT,
JESSE!

THUMP!



THE CREATURES
MOVED ON! BUT WHY
DID HE ATTACK YOU? I
THOUGHT THE DRIED BLOOD
ON OUR BODIES WAS
PROTECTING US!

HE COULD HAVE
DETECTED A MOMENTARY
WHIFF OF MY OWN PERSPIR-
ATION! IT MEANS WE'RE
RAPIDLY RUNNING OUT
OF TIME!

WE DON'T
HAVE MANY HOURS
OF "INVISIBILITY" LEFT
TO US!

JESSE--
WHAT DO YOU
THINK THOSE HUGE
SACS ARE FOR?

REPRODUCTION,
MY DEAR! I BELIEVE
THEY ARE EGGS--
INCUBATING--DEPOSITED
BY THE QUEEN
HERSELF!

THE
QUEEN?

SITTING ON
THE THRONE! THESE
CREATURES ONLY EXIST
TO SERVE HER!

AND SHE
MAY BE OUR ONLY
WAY OUT OF HERE!



MORNING: THE VANGUARD OF A MASS OF MILLIONS ADVANCES DEFIANTLY TOWARD THE EDGE OF A SHEER CLIFF...



A QUEEN UNUSUALLY SCENTLESS AND STRANGELY UNRESPONSIVE...

..WHILE SEVERAL FAITHFULLY OBEDIANT SUBJECTS BIESEWER THEIR QUEEN IN VAIN FOR A NEW COMMAND...



THEREFORE THE PREVIOUS ORDER HOLDS! THE FORWARD ADVANCE CONTINUES...



NOTHING CAN STOP THEM NOW! THEY'RE ALL MARCHING TO THEIR DOOM!

THAT'S IT! LET THEM PASS ON EITHER SIDE OF US!



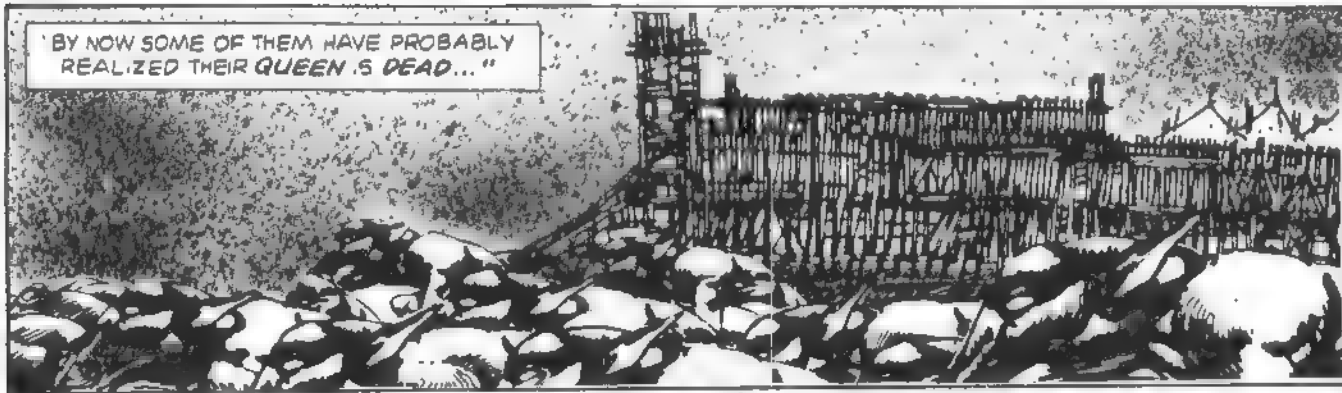
"FIRST THE VANGUARD TROOPS..."



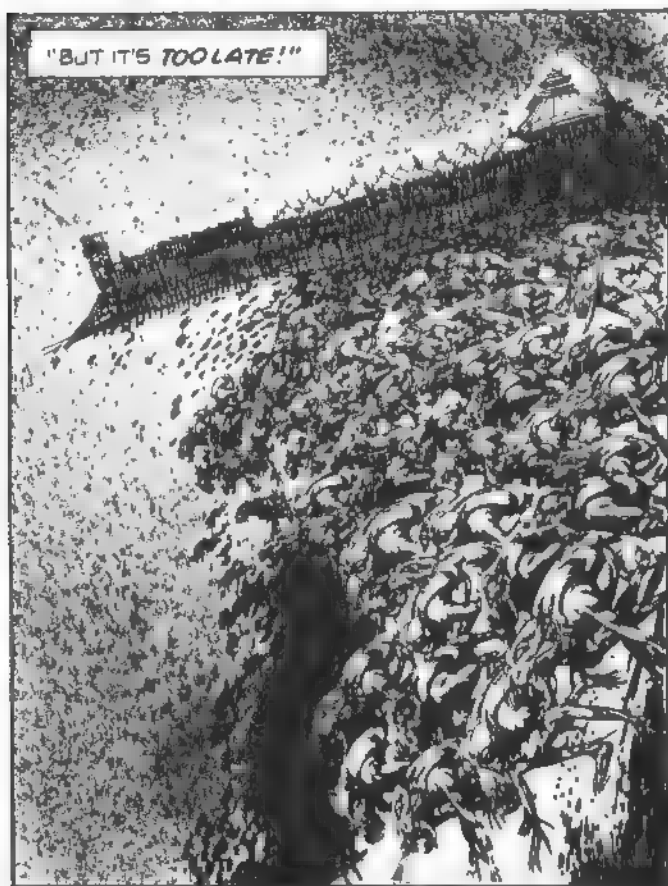
"THEN THE FORWARD FLANKS..."



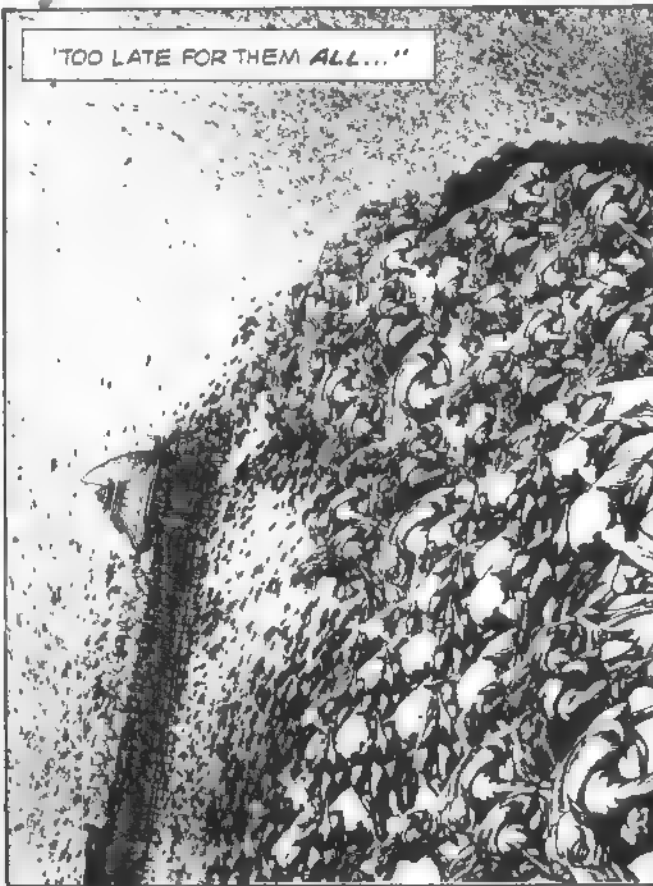
"BY NOW SOME OF THEM HAVE PROBABLY
REALIZED THEIR *QUEEN* IS DEAD..."



"BUT IT'S *TOO LATE!*"



"TOO LATE FOR THEM *ALL...*"



THUNDEROUS MOMENTS LATER--THE FINAL BLIND
BATTALION HAS PLUNGED OFF THE CLIFF TO JOIN
ITS PERISHED RANKS IN THE SEA FAR BELOW...



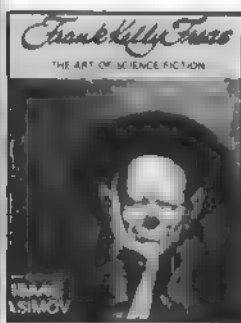
THE AIR IS CALM ONCE AGAIN...



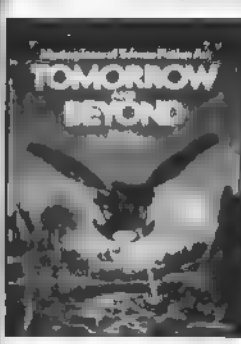
...AND THE HORIZON SEEKERS REST
FOR A MOMENT-- BUT ONLY A
MOMENT--FOR THEY KNOW THEY MUST
MOVE ON...EVER ON...



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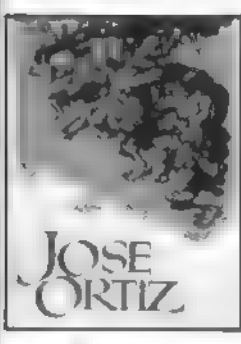
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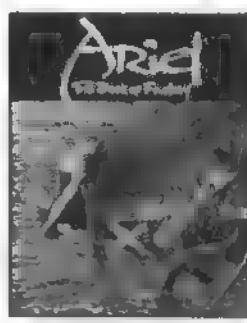
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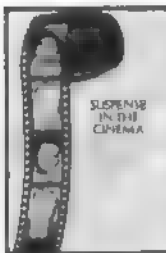
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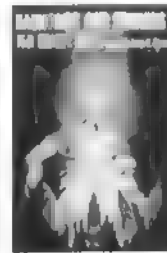
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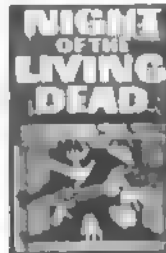
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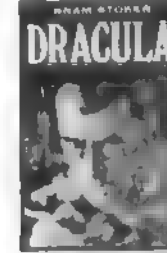
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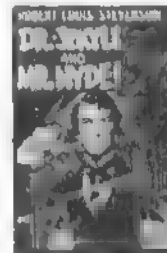
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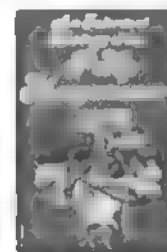
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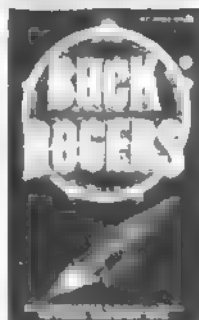


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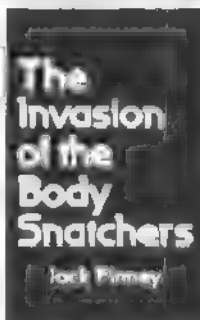
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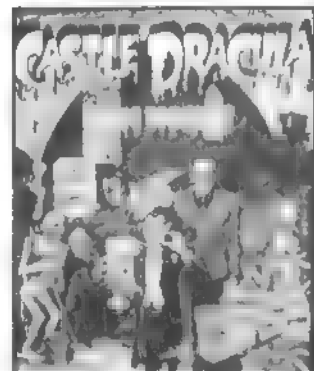
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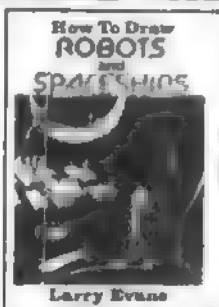
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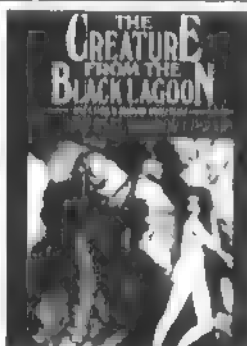
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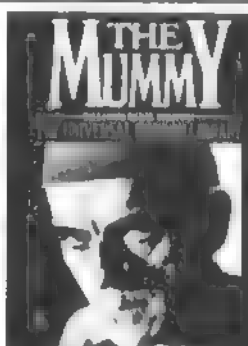
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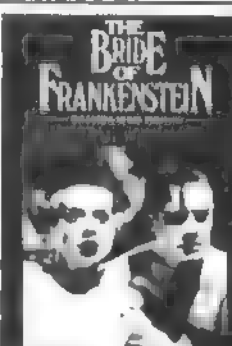
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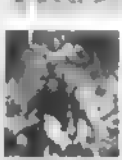
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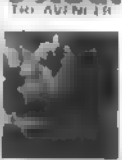
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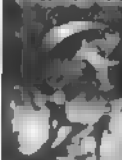
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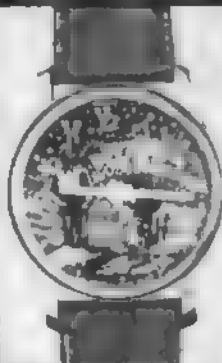


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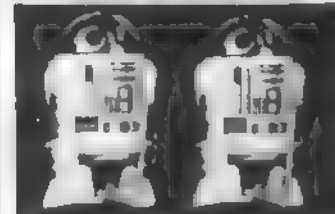


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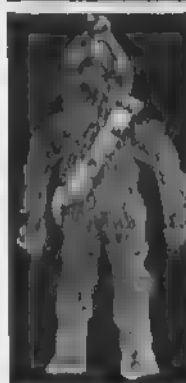
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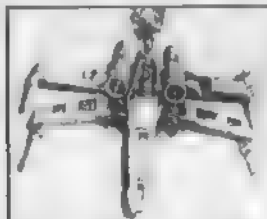
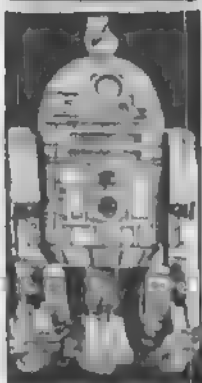


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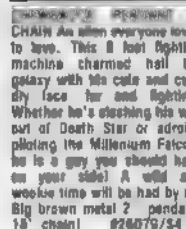
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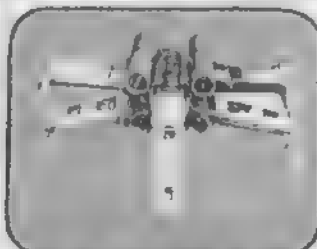
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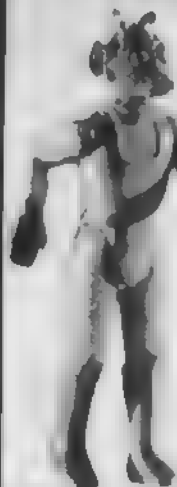


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ALL NEW STAR WARS ACTION FIGURES!

GREEDO ACTION FIGURE



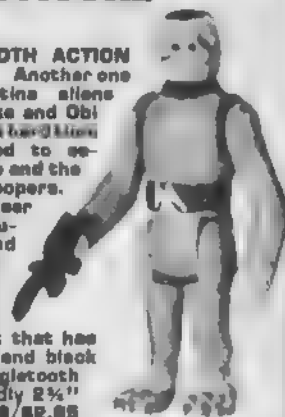
GREEDO ACTION FIGURE From a galaxy teeming with life the Greedo alien washed up in a spaceport bar on Tatooine. One of the aliens in the Cantina. Star Wars lives! The best movie of '77, '78 & '79 rolls on with this new set of action figures. Collect them all for your own star battles. Greedo comes with a laser pistol, movable arms & legs. 3 1/2" high molded in blue & green plastic! #24216/\$2.95

R5D4 ACTION FIGURE



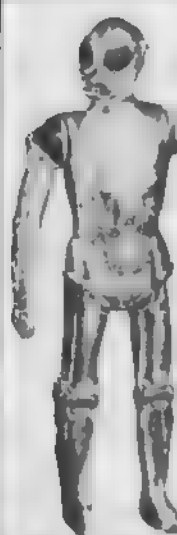
R5D4 ACTION FIGURE One of the incredible number of droids human ingenuity devised. R5D4 was a highly sophisticated, semi-sentient, programmable droid capable of independent action & limited decision-making capability. This is a highly detailed droid with red markings, a movable head that clicks as you turn it & is 2 1/2" high! #24217/\$2.95

SNAGGLETOOTH ACTION FIGURE



SNAGGLETOOTH ACTION FIGURE Another one of the Cantina aliens who gave Luke and Obi Wan-Kenobi a hard time as they tried to escape Tatooine and the Imperial Troopers. Comes with laser rifle, articulated arms and legs. This grey skinned alien wears a bright red pressure suit that has a black belt and black trim. Snaggletooth stands a deadly 2 1/2" high! #24218/\$2.95

DEATH STAR DROID ACTION FIGURE



DEATH STAR DROID ACTION FIGURE The brilliant silver droid of the Death Star is the Empire's battle droid which "mans" all the Death Star's mechanical functions during war maneuvers. The Death Star droid is the Empire's answer to C3PO. A shiny silver in color with dead black eyes, it has movable arms and legs for true to life battles. This droid is detailed & 3 1/2" high! #24222/\$2.95

LUKE SKYWALKER ACTION FIGURE



LUKE SKYWALKER ACTION FIGURE Star Wars' Luke Skywalker flies against the Empire's Death Star. Dressed as an X-Wing fighter pilot, he has his orange flight suit on and grips his laser pistol as if he is ready for closer encounters with Darth Vader. Luke stands 3 1/2" high and has movable arms and legs. For hours of fun you can now stage your own mock battles with Luke in his star warrior uniform and laser pistol. Collect all! #24221/\$2.95

HAMMERHEAD ACTION FIGURE



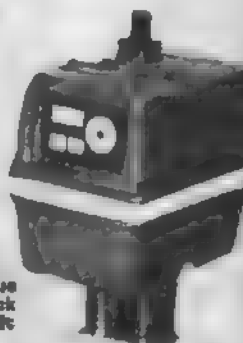
HAMMERHEAD ACTION FIGURE Another of the strange and wonderful aliens from the universe of Star Wars. Luke and Ben encountered the Hammerhead at the Cantina in Mos Eisley on Tatooine. There he was — playing cards and sharing a cup of grog with some very alien friends! He comes with a blue bodysuit, a laser pistol and movable arms and legs. This spindly olive-green alien is 4 1/2" in alien giant! #24219/\$2.95

WALRUS MAN ACTION FIGURE



WALRUS MAN ACTION FIGURE From Mos Eisley's Cantina on Tatooine, another one of the fabulous Star Wars aliens. The Walrus Man is brilliantly colored in his yellow and blue pressure suit and black boots. He is fully articulated with movable arms and legs. He carries his very own laser rifle. Collect the entire set of Star Wars aliens so you can create your own version of the best movie of all! #24223/\$2.95

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POWER DROID ACTION FIGURE Another one of the Star Wars droids, it was the industrial workhorse of the galaxy. It comes in molded slate-blue plastic with black and white trim. It is 2 1/2" high with movable legs that click as they move! #24220/\$2.95

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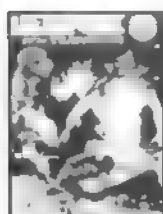
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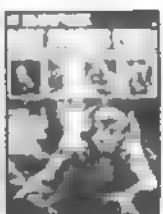
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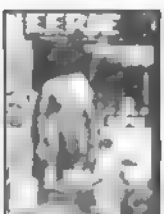
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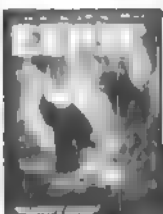
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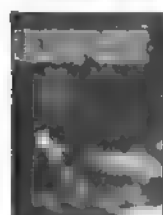
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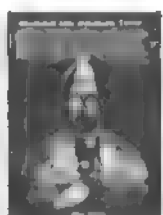
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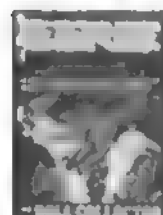
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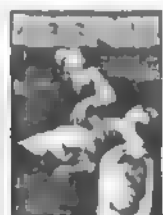
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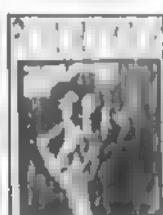
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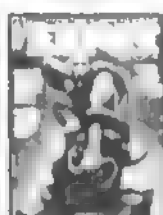
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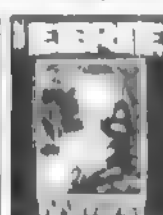
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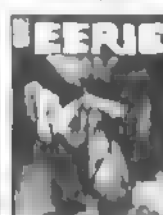
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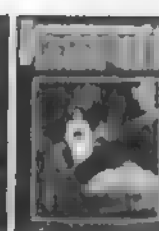
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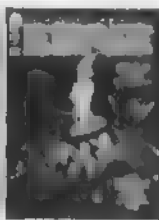
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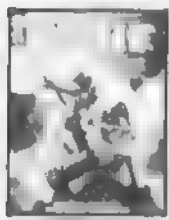
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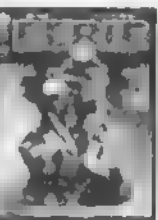
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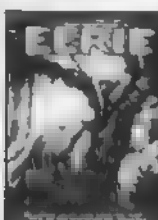
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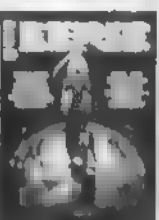
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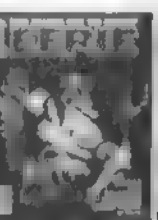
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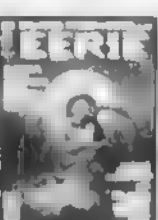
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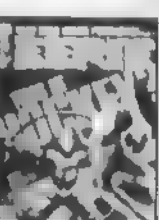
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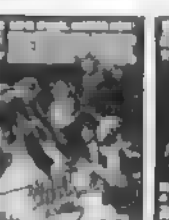
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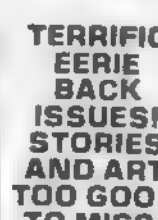
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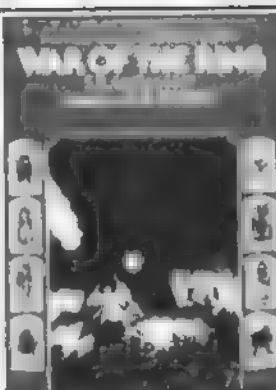


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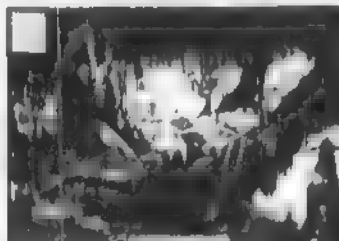


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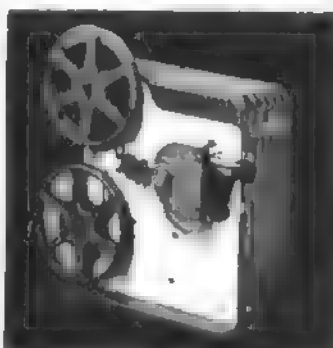


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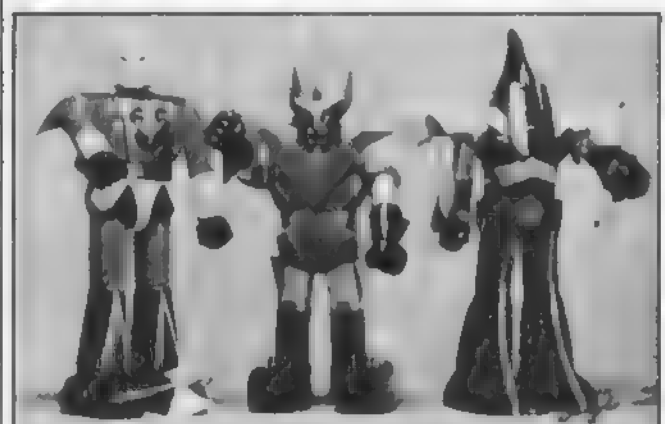


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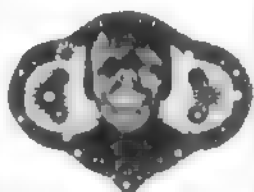
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WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE WHAT THEY SERVE YOU WHEN YOU WEAR THIS SHIRT! ORDER BY SIZE & STYLE.

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

SUPERMAN[®]

A Super Selection for Superman Collectors

SUPERMAN PILLOW CASE One big Superman pillow case to put your head in dreamland! This red, white and blue pillow case comes with the Superman logo scenes from Krypton and of Superman flying up & away through a midnight blue Kryptonian sky! 100% colorfast and machine washable #26106/\$3.50



SUPERMAN BLANKET A gigantic 70" x 90" red, white and blue action-packed blanket of 100% colorfast acrylic, machine washable and mildew resistant. #26110/\$11.95



TELEPHONE AND ADDRESS BOOK

For names and numbers! Your personal telephone directory for Superman buffs of all ages! Room for 400 listings! A great gift or conversation piece! It's spiral bound in plastic! 4 1/2" x 7" #26112/\$2.95



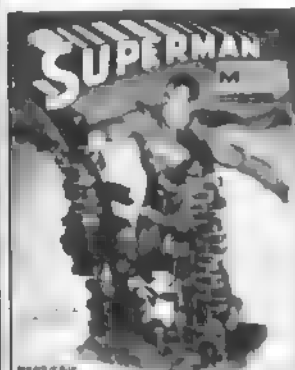
SUPERMAN PORTFOLIO 12 fabulous paintings of the scenes and sets from the Superman movie. 14"x11", finest stock paper in full color and suitable for framing! #21354/\$7.95



SUPERMAN BLUEPRINTS 15 wonderfully detailed blueprints of the exotic sets from the Superman movie including the Fortress of Solitude and much more! 10 1/2" x 7 1/4" #21353/\$8.95



SUPERMAN CUT-OUTS 3 action-packed, 14"x11" scenes from the movie of Krypton, Kansas and Metropolis! Just cut, color paste and assemble for hours of fun! #21355/\$7.95



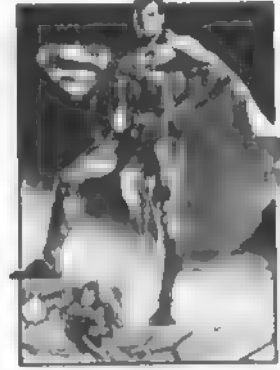
SUPERMAN MODEL KIT Superman stands 9" high in this dynamic model kit as he bashes in a wall! Bargain! #24211/\$3.00



SUPERBOY MODEL KIT 7" high with Krypto and Space Dragon! Super charged and realistic! Super fun! #2477/\$3.60



SUPERMAN 1979 MOVIE CALENDAR Time in '79! Every fabulous scene from the movie from the destruction of Krypton to adulthood on Earth! Hot! #26107/\$4.95



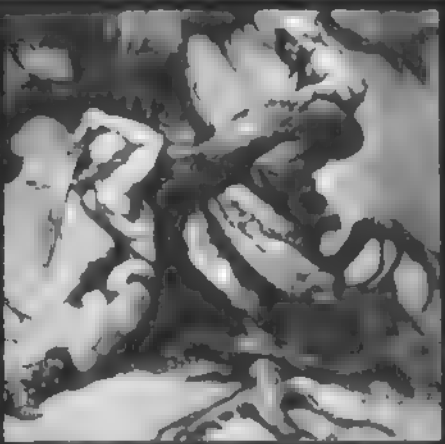
SUPERMAN POSTER Full color, giant sized, 23"x35" of Superman from New York artist Stavros! #29012/\$2.50

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.



1979 FRAZETTA CALENDAR

For keeping time in 78! Now for the first time a fabulous Frazetta collection of posters & paintings to grace this 1979 calendar! Here's 12 Fantastic full color reproductions of the master of fantastic art which are suitable for framing and saving when the month is over. And there is an extra bonus! Included is a double page centerfold in full color! All the reproductions are on quality stock! #26098/\$4.95



NEW! NEW! NEW! "FACE" MAKE-UP KITS!

Each individually boxed monster make-up kit comes with a pre-formed pliable Face Piece that conforms to your features. Eat. Talk. Snarl. The Face Piece moves with you! Plus a Make-Up Kit with 6 easy off colors and 2 brushes! Sticky Goop...to mold it to your skin! Complete Instructions... Glow-In-The-Dark Teeth where applicable! Store it on the handy Face Holder! Fits age 9 to adult!



VAMPIRE FACE
#24229/\$6.25



WEREWOLF FACE
#24230/\$6.25



APE FACE
#24231/\$6.25



WITCH FACE
#24233/\$6.25



SPACE FACE
#24234/\$6.25



YOU SMILE...
IT SMILES!

YOU SNARL...
IT SNARLS!

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CONFORM TO
YOUR OWN
FEATURES!

WON'T
INTERFERE
WITH EATING,
DRINKING,
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TALKING!

ADJUSTABLE FOR
AGE 9 TO ADULT



BATTLESTAR GALACTICA POSTER
All of Galactica's Galacticast on one enormous full color poster in brilliant color—the ships, the people, the robots & the planets! #29025/\$2.50



BATTLESTAR GALACTICA POSTER
Huge full color poster of the Cylon Robots attacking the crew of the Galactica in the labyrinth under the Cylon gambling palace! #29026/\$2.50

COLOR, READ, WEAR, & HANG THEM!

A NEW COLLECTION FROM THE MOVIE BATTLESTAR GALACTICA



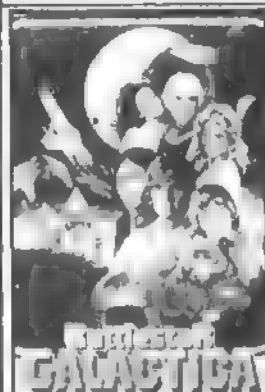
PEN-N- POSTER

This gigantic black & white 17 1/2" x 22" poster comes with three brilliant-color poster pens plus a 17 1/2" x 22" sheet of die-cut parts for two viper gliders. Full assembly instructions are included in this set! #26123/\$4.95



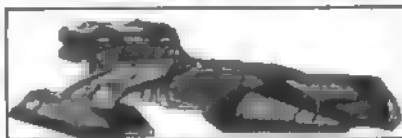
PEN-N- POSTER

Two gigantic 17 1/2" x 22" posters in black and white that come with 6 poster pens in brilliant colors for hours of coloring fun! These action-packed posters feature the Galacticast a space dog fight, the Cylons, and the evil Cylon Robots. This most successful and astounding science-fiction television series is now presented in all its power-packed glory on these two action posters! #26112/\$4.95



BATTLESTAR GALACTICA CREW IRON-ON
A dramatic full color iron-on of the crew from Battlestar Galactica with Cylons & Vipers! #26110/\$1.25

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA IRON-ONS



BATTLESTAR GALACTICA GLITTER IRON-ON
A fabulous new iron-on from Battlestar Galactica! This new iron-on duplicates the Galactica, the interstellar dreadnought that protects the fleet—in glitter! Easy to iron-on! #26108/\$1.25



BATTLESTAR GALACTICA
The greatest space epic ever is packed into this softcover. The original story from the beginning! #21348/\$1.95

TWO NEW ACTION- PACKED SOFT- COVER BOOKS!



BATTLESTAR GALACTICA 2
Action packed adventure in the second novel from the Galactica series! With a Frazetta cover! #21371/\$1.95



BATTLESTAR ATTACK IRON-ON
Lasers flare, ships explode, the Cylons advance and the Warriors of the Fleet resist! A terrific new iron-on! #26111/\$1.25



CYLON ROBOT IRON-ON
Dread Cylons hunt refugees humans on the lower levels of the Cylon Gambling Casino! A full color iron-on from Battlestar Galactica! #26109/\$1.25

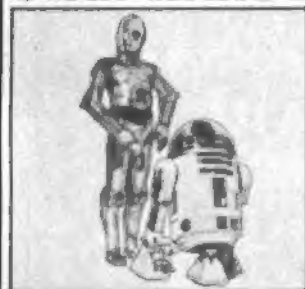


SPACE BATTLE IRON-ON
Brilliant Mars-like planet hangs in a midnight blue, star studded sky as the Cylon's mantle-like ships attack Vipers from the fleet of the Galactica on A.E.C. #26143/\$1.25



CYLON BATTLE IRON-ON
A large full color iron-on of the Cylon Robots from Battlestar Galactica attacking. Incredible colors, sinister glowering robots and blinding explosions make this a terrific iron-on! #26144/\$1.25

STAR WARS BEACH TOWELS



TWO ROBOTS BEACH TOWEL Rest easy at the beach with C-3PO and R2-D2. Robot figures printed in full color on 100% cotton velour background. Towel hemmed and measures 31"x60". #26052/\$6.00



DARTH VADER BEACH TOWEL This fabulous 100% cotton 31"x60" hemmed beach towel sports Darth Vader's image surrounded by attacking tie fighters and Star Wars logo. Full color. #26062/\$6.00

NEW! NEW! NEW! STAR WARS GOODIES!

STAR WARS TOOTH- BRUSH

Faces of Luke, Leia, Han Solo, R2-D2, C-3PO, Chewbacca, Darth Vader, Obi-Wan Kenobi decorate this automatic toothbrush! Recommended up & down brush action makes it a winner in the war against tooth-decay. 2 "C" batteries power this mechanical marvel. 2 brightly-colored replacement brushes put you ahead of the game. Watch the moving parts "move" in the transparent handle. A robot-toothbrush, a Star Warrior's dream. #26070/\$6.50

STAR WARS IRON-ONS



JAWAS IRON-ON Here they are! The most mysterious tribe in the Empire. The scavenger race that captured R2D2 and C3PO in full sinister color. #26126/\$1.00



LUKE SKYWALKER IRON-ON Full color Luke Skywalker iron-on returning laser fire. Iron Luke onto your T-shirts or anything at all! #26124/\$1.00



CHEWBACCA IRON-ON Chewie in all his hairy glory stands out in this full color iron-on. Has golden hair, fangs, pug nose & black eyes! #26125/\$1.00

STAR WARS SLEEPING BAG



Get out under the stars and into Star Wars with this new synthetic fiber filled sleeping bag! Unzips into a colorful, reversible 68"x69" comforter. Washable and has vinyl tote! #26050/\$27.95

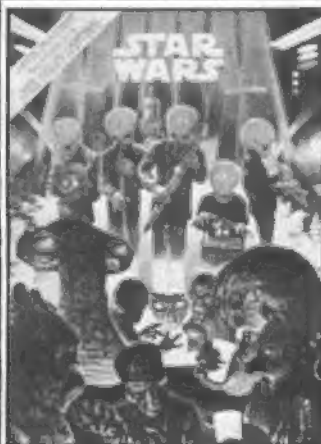
STAR WARS PILLOW CASE

Dream of galaxies long ago and far, far away on this colorful blue, white and gold, washable percale pillowcase which features dramatic scenes with Luke, See Threepio, Artoo-Detoo, Princess Leia, Chewbacca and Darth Vader! There is one pillowcase per package and they fit any normal size pillow superbly! #26049/\$3.50



STAR WARS BLANKET

Let the force blanket you with warmth! New, colorful, acrylic blanket features all your favorite Star Wars characters such as Luke, Leia; all your robot heroes (See Threepio and Artoo-Detoo), Han Solo, Darth Vader; X-Wing and T.I.E. fighters, the Death Star and the Star Wars logo! Vivid blues, golds, and whites create an action packed, star strewn blanket that is washable, colorfast, durable and easy to care for! No Star Wars room is complete without this terrific blanket! #26051/\$11.75



STAR WARS CANTINA POSTER

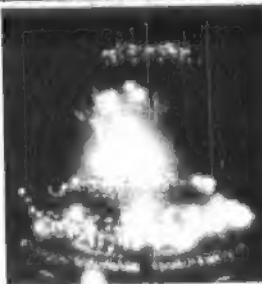
STAR WARS CANTINA POSTER Gigantic 28"x20" full color poster of that star alien jazz band—the Xaikond 5! Fresh from an unlimited engagement in theaters around the universe, not to mention the Mos Eisley Cantina, these interstellar pips are playing to their alien friends which include the Hammerhead, a Walrus Man, a Gredso & many, many more. The stars have come out to play at last! #29013/\$2.00



WE ARE NOT ALONE

EXTRATERRESTRIAL BENDABLE FIGURE

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the THIRD KIND EXTRATERRESTRIAL BENDABLE FIGURE We are not alone! At least, not any more. The extraterrestrial from the film is here! Approximately 7" tall from toe to head, his flesh-toned face smiles "hi!" #26080/\$2.00

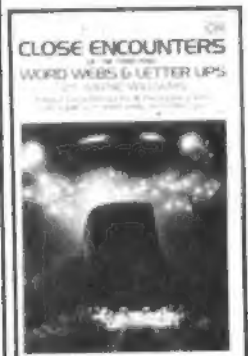


CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND POSTER PEN SET

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS POSTER and PEN SET

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the THIRD KIND POSTER PEN SET Now, recreate Close Encounters; most colorful film yet, with a Poster Pen Set. 7 vivid, non-toxic pens, a 16"x22" poster board and instructions plus a bonus FULL COLOR POSTER are in this kit. #24202/\$4.50

CLOSER ENCOUNTERS with CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the THIRD KIND!



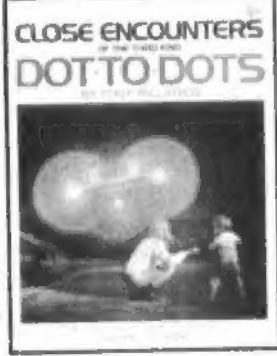
CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the THIRD KIND WORD WEBS & LETTER UPS PAPERBACK 17 puzzles referring to the movie & 20 photos, lot of the film aliens. #21310/\$1.25



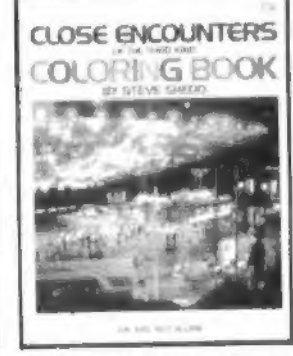
CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the THIRD KIND MAZES PAPERBACK Wind your way through 20 out-of-this world mazes based on the film. 23 fabulous photographs. #21308/\$6c



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the THIRD KIND GALACTIC GAMES PAPERBACK 24 crosswords, acrostics, codes and more based on the film plus 24 movie photographs. #21309/\$6c



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the THIRD KIND DOT-TO-DOTS PAPERBACK Connect the dots to recreate scenes from the movie. 8"x10 1/2" with 9 big photographs to conjure memories of the film. #21311/\$1.25



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the THIRD KIND COLORING BOOK Story of the movie retold in black and white illustrations for you to color. 64 pages, a large-size 8"x10 1/2" paperback format. #21312/\$1.25

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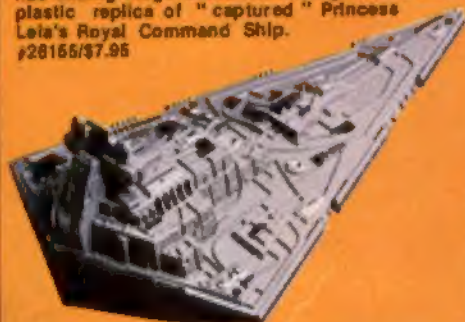
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NEW STAR WARS SPACE STUFF!

IMPERIAL CRUISER

The Imperial Cruiser of the mad Emperor, who used these deadly ships to enforce his will throughout imperial space. Crafted of diecast metal and high impact plastic with sleek moving parts. Cruiser has sliding cargo doors containing a removable plastic replica of "captured" Princess Leia's Royal Command Ship.
#26155/\$7.95



MILLENNIUM FALCON

Han Solo's Millennium Falcon zooms out of Star Wars crafted in diecast metal and high impact plastic with sleek moving parts such as dish antenna, laser cannon emplacement and retractable landing skids. Comes with transparent cockpit with nonremovable Han Solo and Chewbacca inside! Recreate your own battles in outer space!
#26154/\$7.95

Y-WING FIGHTER



The Y-Wing fighter of the rebel force gets ready to strike in all its power in this metal diecast and high impact resistant plastic version. It comes with a clear plastic windshield that has a mini-figure of a rebel pilot inside! The laser cannons swivel and the rear engine pods are removable. A push button releases a laser bomb & has retractable skids!
#26158/\$7.95

PATROL DEW-BACK

This is the giant desert lizard which was used by the Imperial Stormtroopers as a patrol vehicle. Comes with movable legs, tail and head for action poses! Has saddle into which you can fit an Imperial Stormtrooper!
#26150/\$7.95



RADIO CONTROLLED R2-D2

Authentically working model of R2-D2 stands 9" tall and is controlled by a 2-channel radio that operates up to 20 feet away! Special stop/start button controls movement. R2-D2 moves in any one of 4 directions: right, left, forward & backward. Red light points in direction of movement, head rotates & beeps! Batteries are not included.
#26179/\$49.95



STAR WARS ACTION SETS

Reproductions of Famous Star Wars Sets



MOS EISLEY CANTINA

The set of that incredible space front bar on Tatooine. Comes with swinging door, circular bar, 2 action levers for battles, rear alcove with table, murals of the band and floor pegs.
#26151/\$9.95



LAND OF THE JAWAS

A Tatooine desert set with a sand dune base that has a cave & boulders, action lever for battles, with landing pod and a sand crawler backdrop & working elevator!
#26152/\$9.95



DROID FACTORY An exciting set from Star Wars! Mysterious Jawas build droids from 33 interchangeable parts. Movable crane lifts parts from supply area to assembly to build up to 5 different robots at a time!
#26153/\$12.95

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IRON-ONS



SUPERMAN MOVIE #26141/\$1.00

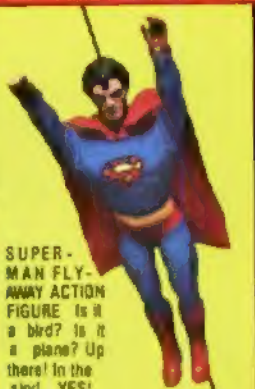
Two spectacular iron-ons. One with the Superman logo, Christopher Reeve, a ringed planet and the giant red sun of Krypton looming ominously in the background! The other is a big, spectacular glitter iron-on of the famous Superman "S" symbol in red and yellow!



SUPERMAN SYMBOL #26142/\$1.00

SUPERMAN

UP, UP and AWAY with SOME of SUPERMAN'S FAVORITE THINGS!



SUPERMAN FLY-AWAY ACTION FIGURE Is it a bird? Is it a plane? Up there! In the sky! YES! It's the Superman fly-away figure! 12 1/2" tall and fully poseable action figure with cloth costume! Comes with fly-away mechanism! Pull the ring and he flies up! #26170/\$14.98



SUPERMAN COMIC PAPER BACK 5 memorable adventures including the complete story of his life & more! #21366/\$1.25



SUPERMAN SEARCH A WORD PUZZLE 24 super exciting puzzles! You don't need X-ray vision for this! #21365/95c

SUPERMAN ACTION FIGURES

SUPERMAN #26166/\$14.98



From Superman, The Movie, here they are, the two biggest heroes and the two worst villains in the galaxy! Superman and his father Jor-El, Krypton's greatest criminal—General Zod and Earth's greatest criminal mastermind—Lex Luthor! All are fully articulated with movable arms, legs and head and all come with authentic cloth costumes that are tailored for snug fit in bright colors! All are 12 1/2" tall action figures!



GENERAL ZOD #26167/\$14.98



LEX LUTHOR #26168/\$14.98



JOR-EL #26169/\$14.98

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.